

Delivery Schedule

To save time and expense it becomes necessary to schedule a time for delivering, as follows:

Round trip starts.....7:00 o'clock a. m.
North Side.....8:30 " "
South Side.....9:30 " "
North Side, last trip 10:30 " "

AFTERNOON AS FOLLOWS:

North Side.....2:30 o'clock p. m.
South Side.....3:30 " "
North Side, last trip 4:30 " "

No deliveries made between these hours

To take effect January 1, 1918.

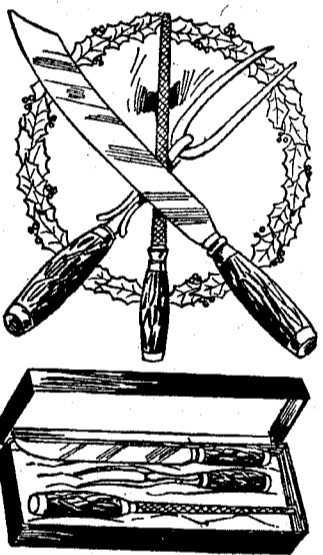
Leave your orders early for Poultry for the holidays.

STRICTLY CASH MARKET

F. H. MILKS, Proprietor
Phone No. 2

Make It An Aluminum Christmas

Aluminum is the prize winner in every kitchen regardless of whatever other ware that may be there.



Aluminum

Coffee Pots
Tea Pots
Tea Kettles
Frying Pans
Griddles
Pots
Pans and
Kettles

of many kinds and descriptions

Don't forget that the young man needs a good Jack Knife

A fine line of Carving Sets

Perhaps the husband has been needing some Tools. We carry a complete line of working tools of all kinds.

SALLING, HANSON CO.

Hardware Department

L. J. KRAUS

DEALER IN
HARDWARE, STOVES, BUILDERS' SUPPLIES,
PAINTS, OILS and SPORTING GOODS
PLUMBING and HEATING
PHONE 1222

Do Your Xmas Shopping at this Store

We have a Complete Line of Percolators both in Aluminum and Copper Nickel Plated
Electric Irons for direct or alternating current
Electric Stoves, Chafing Dishes and Toasters
Aluminum Tea Kettles and Coffee Pots
Fine line of Steering Sleds
Ice Skates of all kinds for boys and girls
Air Guns of the best styles
Carving Sets, Roasters and Silverware
All kinds of Granite Cooking Utensils
Weller's Earthenware will stand the heat
Steel Ranges and Heating Stoves at prices that will suit your pocketbook
We sell stoves on the installment plan
Yours for business,

L. J. KRAUS

Patronize the Merchants that Advertise, and tell them you saw their ad in the Avalanche—it identifies you.

School Notes

The human race is governed by its imagination.—Napoleon.

According to one of the Senior History students Patrick Henry was rather long lived as he was a leader in the anti-slavery campaign.

Webster pays such strict attention to his own business that some of the science students seem to have forgotten that he occupies a seat in the front of the assembly room.

The 7th. A Arithmetic is having great fun playing with blocks under pretense of figuring out areas of solids.

The High school has several new yells and songs with which it hopes to cheer the teams on, to even greater success than they achieved last season.

If the Junior's go in the hole this year giving their "Hop," they expect the orchestra will be able to fish them out as they are all "Fisher" men.

The third victory of this season was won by the High school boys from the veterans with a score of 19-20. The stars from the teams of the last decade played on the All City team, but every man of the High school team outplayed his opponent.

The High school Orchestra's books have arrived and work has begun under supervision of Band Master Clark.

Mary Pickford because of a special request made by the Junior class will visit the Grayling Opera house shortly after the holidays.

For two days the 7th. A Geography class was the scene of some lively discussions about conditions and the probable effects upon the Geography of the future.

Margaret Graham has received a mark of 100% in spelling every day this month.

If any one has a sure cure for vacation fever I am sure that it would be greatly appreciated by the faculty as well as by the students.

Through the efforts of the High school body it is expected that the honor system will be established in the beginning of the new school year.

The College algebra class is studying probability and chance. They expect to determine the Kaiser's chances of ever negotiating with any of allied powers.

May Spear Thru Ice in Portage Lake.

In reply to a petition sent the State Game department at Lansing last week, requesting that spearing pike be allowed thru the ice in Portage lake, Commissioner John Baird writes as follows:

December, 18, 1917.
Mr. O. P. Schumann,
The Crawford Avalanche,
Grayling, Michigan.

Dear Sir:—
I have your letter of November 15th enclosing petition, relative to the permitting of spearing through the ice in Portage lake in your county during the months of December 1917 and January and February 1918.

I am writing to advise you that two years ago, when the compilation of game and fish laws was made the Attorney General held that the local act had been superseded by the general law, and therefore it has not been published in the game and fish laws since that time. Therefore the general law provides that all kinds of fish, except black bass and trout, may be taken through the ice with a spear during the months of January and February in each year and that five ice-lives may be used for the purpose of taking all kinds of fish, except black bass and trout, during the months of December, January and February in each year. As the general law controls at this time any one would have the privilege of using a spear as above during the months of January and February 1918 and may use five ice-lives during the months of December, January and February.

Very truly yours,
John Baird,
Commissioner.

A WOMAN'S BACK.

The Advice of This Grayling Woman is of Certain Value.

Many a woman's back has many aches and pains.

Ofttimes 'tis the kidneys' fault.

That's why Doan's Kidney Pills are so effective.

Many Grayling women know this. Read what one has to say about it:

Mrs. Wm. Moshier, Maple & Ogema streets says: "Doan's kidney pills have been a household remedy in my home for several years. My kidneys were weak and acted too frequently. My back was lame and I had a constant, dull ache through the small of it. Doan's kidney pills, which I got at Olson's Drug store, never failed to rid me of these attacks."

Price 60 cents, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Moshier had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfgs. Buffalo, N. Y.—Adv.

RELIEF SPEEDED TO HALIFAX

TWO SPECIAL RED CROSS TRAINS CARRY SUCCOR TO VICTIMS OF EXPLOSION.

Physicians and Nurses Mobilized; Situation is in Hand

Washington.—Two special Red Cross trains, carrying the personnel and equipment of an entire base hospital unit, with additional doctors, nurses and social workers, foodstuffs, bedding, clothing and surgical supplies, were rushed through New England to the stricken city of Halifax. Special arrangements for their prompt movement was made by the railroads over which they passed.

The two trains were made up of five coaches each. One left from Boston and the other from New York. The base hospital unit was on the Boston train.

In addition that train carried a special medical unit of 25 doctors and 30 nurses as well as a number of trained social workers. Nurses, doctors and social workers also were aboard the special leaving New York.

Several other trains were also dispatched from New England points with every facility for supplying aid to the stricken city.

Before arrival of the trains, however, active work of American Red Cross relief was under way, as workers were on the ground several minutes after the explosion occurred.

What Trains Carried.

The following articles valued at more than \$200,000, were carried by the trains: 4,330 pairs of socks and 3,034 pairs of bed socks; 10,030 sweaters; 15,152 pieces of men's women's and children's clothing; 10,000 blankets; 20 cases containing 100 gallons of disinfecting fluid; 20,000 pounds of bandages; 496 cots and a carload of foodstuffs.

Physicians and Nurses Mobilized.

One hundred surgeons and physicians, more than 150 nurses and a number of social workers were speedily mobilized by the Red Cross.

THEATERS GIVE RED CROSS AID

MATINEE PERFORMANCES YIELD SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS FOR MERCY FUND.

Assist in the Promotion of a Philanthropy Made Acute by War's Need.

The heart of the mimic world that throbs so true and resolute in the philanthropies of peace is doubly warm and responsive in the charities of war.

Red Cross matinees in the theaters of the state last Friday raised substantial amounts for the fund. While not a part of the Christmas membership drive, the fine co-operation of the theaters, who contributed the entire receipts of the day, was a fitting "curtain-raiser."

Others Besides Playerfolk.

In Detroit it wasn't only the player-folk of the footlights, though, who gave their time and talent. The arts united. Captain James W. Inches, Edgar A. Guest and some people of the Arts and Crafts theater, among others, participated in the programs.

The service khaki of Dr. Inches brought an air of actuality and realism beyond the compass of painted drop or eloquent word.

"Sacrifice is a word of red letters in the lexicon of the Red Cross," he said, in his talk from the Temple Theatre stage.

Recalls a Night in Italy.

"Let me take you to a dark night in Italy. We are coming up a narrow road to a small hospital. There is a rumbling of big guns talking in thunderous voices, and ahead is a steep mountainside. To pass up the trail one must go directly through enemy fire.

"Three small Red Cross ambulances are spinning along.

"You're removing some wounded?" I asked.

"Oh, no. But there has been a nasty shell-burst up the mountain and we're going to bring back some 19 wounded," the officer told me. And he said it just as you might say you were going to the river to catch the Windson ferry."

In France, Captain Inches related the former health officer visited a munition factory making 45,000 high explosives a day.

"Who was turning them out? Eight thousand of the finest women in France. And I said to myself, 'If that is the spirit of the nation, they may kill France but they never will whip her.'"

"Whether we win this war depends on whether we can develop the same spirit. When I left there, they seemed to think in England and France the chances of victory were about fifty-fifty, unless America awoke. Russia is out of it; it's hardly can take care of herself, as if France, having fought a magnificent fight, is in bad straits.

"If we can't go, we at least can work."

We will accept Liberty Bonds in payment for goods.

Emil Kraus

Grayling's Leading Dry Goods and Clothing Store

We will accept Liberty Bonds in payment for goods.

The Christmas season is here and this store has hundreds of wonderful bargains for the happy Xmas shopper. Come now and make your selection, while stocks are complete. We have many useful gifts at most reasonable prices and here are a few suggestions.

FOR HER---

Fur topped Juliets, blue, pink, gray, maroon and taupe **\$1.50**

Felt Slippers at \$1.50

Black kid Juliets at 2.25-\$2.50

Leather Moccasins 1.75 to \$2.75

Handkerchiefs, Fancy Collars, Leather purses—the trim tailored kind that women like so well—just the right size to fit your hand, 75c to \$2.00

A blouse represents the sum total of what a woman likes in a gift. Crepe de Chenes, in flesh and white, at \$4.50

FOR HIM---

Felt Slippers

Moccasins

Neckties

Handkerchiefs

Leather Romeo Slippers

Suspenders

Scarfs

Sweaters

Gloves

Hose Supporters

Silk Hose

Trench Caps

THE STORE OF A THOUSAND GIFTS

The prettiest of all the gifts, so tiny they will almost go in baby's wee stocking. Little knitted sacques, almost like a doll's sacque and as dainty as they can be—white with pink and blue trimmings. They keep them very warm. Bootees to put on their little feet, some almost seven league boots for they come right over their knees and keep them snug as can be—25c and 35c.

Handkerchiefs for Ladies--- In fancy Silks and Crepe de Chenes, 25, 35 and 50c. Pure Linens in plain and fancies at 10, 25 and 35c. Fancy Muslin Handkerchiefs in all prices.

Handkerchiefs for Men--- Cotton and Linen and Silk—10, 15, 25 and 50c each.

Just the Thing for Children

Little Shopping Bags, Burnt Wood Boxes, Fancy Paste-board Boxes, all containing cute little Handkerchiefs.

Gloves for ladies' and gents'. Brown and gray kids, Suede and dressed.

Fancy Ribbons

We have a complete line of fancy Ribbons, largest assortment ever seen in a town of this size—fine for bags of all kinds, misses' and children's bows for the hair, in fact we have what's newest among the ribbon craft novelties.

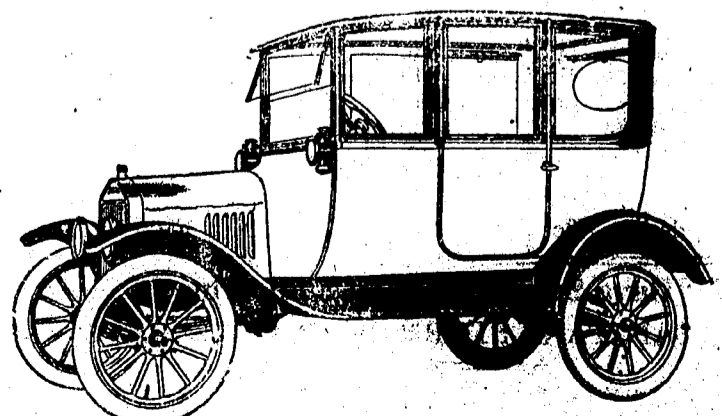
A Pretty Rest Robe for Mother--- Mother would love a rest robe in lavender, Wistaria, in fact we have all colors.

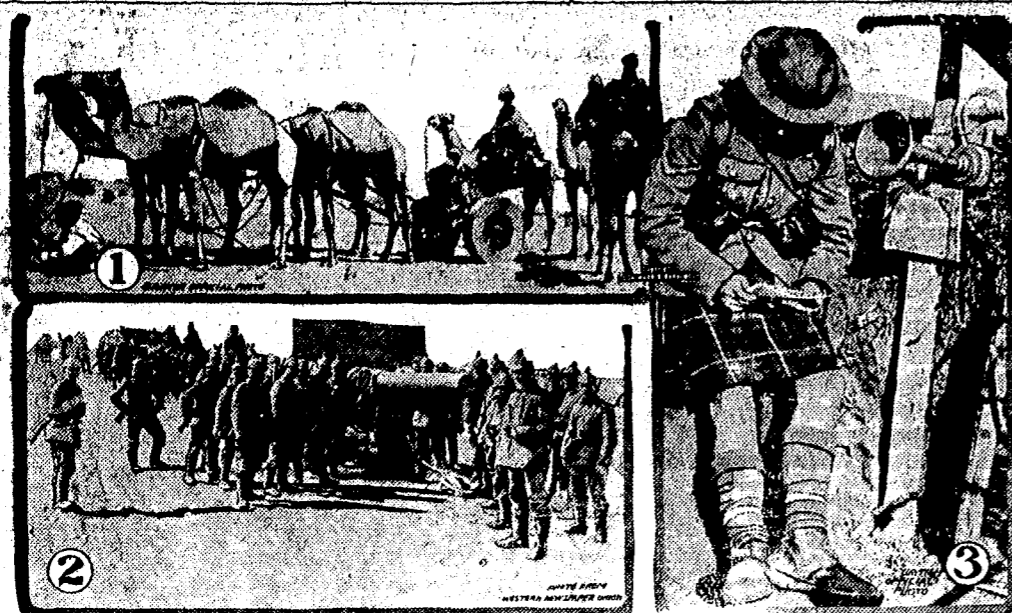
Beautiful New Silk Stockings. The young girl who is going to many parties will love these new stockings—dark brown, white, black, gold, taupe pink and blue.

Ford
THE UNIVERSAL CAR

As a downright, genuine family car there's none can beat the Ford Sedan with its refined comfortable appointments, attractive appearance and positive dependability. It's big enough for all the family. A delightful car for touring and ideal for shopping and social functions. The women-folk can drive it with ease and safety. It's an every-day-in-the-year car, and is operated and maintained at small cost. Why not buy one for your family? Sedan, \$645 f. o. b. Detroit.

GEORGE BURKE, Grayling, Michigan.





1—British in Palestine laying a telephone cable with the aid of a chariot drawn by camels. 2—Huge German guns of a new model being hurried up to the western front. 3—Highlander in a gas suit ready to spread the alarm when the Germans let loose the poisonous fumes.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

COSSACKS UNDER KORNILOFF AND KALEDINES FIGHTING THE BOLSHEVIKI.

LENINE'S RULE TOTTERING

German Preparations for Great Offensive on Western Front—Haig Repulses Their First Attacks—Italians Still Holding Plave River Line—Our War Preparation Methods Are Being Investigated.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Speculating on what has happened in Russia and what is about to happen has become a favorite occupation of the rest of the world. Dispatches from Petrograd, where the means of communication are controlled by the bolsheviks, are wholly unreliable, and news from other sources is fragmentary and conflicting. At this writing the facts appear to be about as follows: In southern and southeastern Russia the Cossacks, who stand for law and order, are fighting the bolshevik forces in Petrograd and Moscow. Lenin and his crowd are maintaining themselves in power by using the strong hand, arresting and murdering their opponents and bulldozing the constituent assembly, which began its sessions; the Russian armies on the east front, following the arrangement of an armistice, are rapidly disbanding, and the Romanians were forced to accept an armistice by the action of their allies; but the negotiations for peace started by the bolsheviks have run against a snag in the extraordinary demands made by the Germans; many different parts of Russia have declared their independence, and Siberia shows signs of reverting to the rule of the deposed czar; Vladivostok, where are immense quantities of supplies sent by America and the entente allies, is patrolled by Japanese troops, and Harbin is being protected by Chinese soldiers.

If this is a correct statement of conditions at the close of the week, it would be a bold man who would predict the immediate future.

Reports of Battle Contradictory.

According to official bolshevik dispatches from Petrograd, the Cossacks under Korniloff were defeated early in the week near Rielgorod, but another account of the battle said Korniloff routed his opponents, that many of them joined his forces and that he surrounded the others and "dealt with them very drastically." General Kaledines, the Cossack hetman, also is active in southern Russia and it is said to be his hope, with the aid of the allies, at least to shut the Germans out of the food-producing part of the country.

Wireless reports from Rostov, which did not reach the outside world until Thursday, said Kaledines was besieging that city and that within Rostov the Cossacks had been fighting the bolsheviks and destroyed their headquarters. At the same time a transport manned by bolsheviks was being boarded by the Kaledines forces.

Bitterly disappointing to the bolsheviks must be the German demands made in the peace negotiations, and at this distance it is hard to see what may be the Kaiser's purpose in being so severe. His commissioners are reported to have insisted that Germany shall not give up any Russian territory she now occupies; that Petrograd must be evacuated until peace is concluded; that the Ukraine shall be ceded to Austria-Hungary; that Germany shall control the Russian wheat market for fifteen years and German goods shall be admitted to Russia duty free. The armistice, it is said, is to continue for three months, Germany seemingly evaded the Russian demand that during its continuance no troops be moved to other fronts, and meanwhile has been transferring hundreds of thousands of soldiers to France and Italy.

Germans Preparing for Great Attack.

All the signs during the early part of the week led to the belief that the Germans were preparing for a supreme effort at some point of the west front. Allied aviators observed long motor

trains carrying vast numbers of troops and immense quantities of supplies, and for days the German artillery was excessively active. Various feeling-out movements were undertaken against the French without success, and on Wednesday the Germans made three violent attacks on the British between Bullecourt and Queant. The first two were repulsed and the third gave the enemy possession of an already obliterated trench at the apex of the angle in the British lines.

This, of course, was not the main attack planned by Von Hindenburg, who, it was believed, would soon start his greatest offensive on the west in two years, with the assistance of many Austrian divisions. The British and French were on tip-toe to meet it, and it was taken for granted that some at least of General Pershing's American forces would have a part in the battle. Indeed, some observers predicted that an attempt would be made to smash that part of the line toward Alsace where most of the Americans have been stationed. Others believed the main attack of the Germans would be delivered against the French between Reims and Verdun.

Italian Front Seems Safe.

For several days the Austrians, Hungarians and Germans made continuous and heavy assaults on the Italians between the Piave and Brenta rivers north of Monte Grappa. The fighting was severe and the losses large, but the enemy made slight impression on the Italian line, gaining a precarious foothold in some positions on Monte Spionova and Col Tressa. The Italians are fighting with the utmost determination and are greatly cheered by the prospect of American help. On Thursday a large number of American ambulance men with their cars left Rome for the Piave river front. It is interesting to note that the first American shot against Austria was fired by Representative Tinkham of Massachusetts on the lower Piave. On invitation of an Italian officer he sent a big shell hurtling across to the Austrian line, regardless of the fact that if the enemy should capture him he could be executed as a "franc-tireur."

Bearing out the statement that the Teutonic effort in Italy has exhausted itself is the welcome news that heavy snow is falling in the mountains at the west end of the front, rendering difficult the further transportation of men and material. The Italians, however, expect to hold the enemy by strength of arms rather than with the aid of nature.

The Italian war is doing its part in the defense and on Sunday eight torpedo boat flotilla entered the harbor of Trieste and sank two Austrian battleships, one of them being the Wien.

Occupation of Jerusalem.

The occupation of Jerusalem by General Allenby's expedition caused great rejoicing among Christians and Jews of the civilized world. The event has more than a sentimental value, for the possession of the Holy City by the British makes safe the Suez canal and provides them with a base from which to threaten seriously the Turks to the east and north. In conjunction with the British operations in Mesopotamia, Allenby's success in Palestine is very important to the cause of the allies. As was predicted, Jerusalem was taken without the necessity of a bombardment, and its capture is adequately protecting the holy place.

In Mesopotamia General Falkenhayn launched his expected offensive, attacking General Marshall's army with a strong force of Turks and Germans. The British were compelled to fall back across the Dajla and Euphrates rivers with the enemy in pursuit. It is taken for granted that Falkenhayn's intention is to make a great effort to recapture Bagdad.

Though the number of British vessels sunk by submarines, as reported by the admiralty, was still too large for comfort, those in a position to know assert that the U-boat campaign really has proved a failure and that the submarines are being destroyed or captured almost as fast as Germany can build them. Moreover, the British ships are now turning out almost as much tonnage monthly as the Germans destroy and are fast increasing their output.

Investigating Dilatory Methods.

The expected and inevitable attack on our methods of war preparation came last week in the form of an investigation by the senate committee on military affairs. Enough of what

the committee learned in the first few days' work has been made public to show that the complaints and the inquiry are warranted. The brunt falls on the ordnance and quartermaster general's bureaus, though the chiefs of these bureaus are not considered personally to blame. The senators want to learn the real causes of the delay in supplying arms, artillery and all other munitions to the nation's fighting force—a delay that is admitted and that is usually laid to the old tape methods of the war department. Congress furnished plenty of money, and the question is why was it not expended quickly and wisely? General Pershing's troops, it appears, have had to rely on the British and French for artillery and other supplies, and the men in the American training camps have been very inadequately furnished with rifles, warm clothing and other necessities. These are only a few of the complaints the committee is investigating.

Secretary Baker's reply to criticism, an assertion that America's military preparations have evoked the admiration of the experts of other nations, can scarcely be taken as an adequate defense of the methods of his department. In explaining the delay in obtaining machine guns General Crozier, chief of the ordnance bureau, declared that Mr. Baker himself was to blame. The whole thing should and probably will result in the creation of a real superior war council, and the sooner this is done, the better for America and the world.

The railroad question is claiming much attention of the administration, and President Wilson indicated last week he would soon address congress on the matter and ask legislation. It appears he does not favor actual government ownership of the roads, but rather the creation of an administrator or board of transportation with power to direct the employment of the joint resources of the railways in whatever manner is deemed best for war purposes. Under this plan the roads would be operated by their present managements and would be guaranteed a fair profit.

Leniency for Austro-Hungarians.

In his proclamation of a state of war against Austro-Hungary President Wilson announced an unexpectedly lenient policy in the treatment of subjects of the dual kingdom in America. So long as they behave themselves they are left free to reside and labor in the barred zones closed to Germans, and they are not required to register with the police and postmasters. This policy was hailed with joy by thousands of Czechs, Bohemians and Poles who hate Austria, and also was a great relief to many employers who had feared their industries would be crippled. If the conduct of the Austro-Hungarians shows they do not properly appreciate this leniency, they will be placed under the same restrictions that apply to subjects of Germany.

In prosecuting his campaign for the conservation of food needed for the fighting forces, Mr. Hoover last week added a perkless day, Saturday, which he asks everyone to observe. In addition to the wheatless and meatless days, he urges a wheatless and meatless meal each day. The federal trade commission having been informed that canned goods are being hoarded in the warehouses of the meat packers, an investigation of this was started at once.

The coal situation is becoming more and more serious with the increasingly cold weather. The administrations of various states are complaining bitterly of the hardship imposed on their people, and in Ohio only the stern intervention of Fuel Administrator Garfield prevented Governor Cox from seizing the coal at the lake ports. In the senate the conditions brought out severe criticism of the railroad board of the government priority board.

Several more of the American railway engineers in France have been killed, this time by aerial bombs dropped by the Germans in a town through which the engineers were passing.

The successful military revolution in Portugal is causing the allied governments some uneasiness, for while the new government set up announced that Portugal would remain faithful to her pledges, the insurrection was directed against the most trusted friends of the allies, and some of them, including President Machado and Premier Costa, have been imprisoned. Dr. Sidonio Pais, who led the revolt, has been made premier and foreign minister.

Leadoff, declares roundly "the conception of immorality is relative," and that "good morals are only what the upper classes of society approve" and gives Germany "the justification in case of necessity to put the stamp of morality upon what today seems immoral."

The main proposals are: Women who have reached a certain age are called upon to enter into a secondary marriage, supported by personal inclination.

Only a married man may be the object of this inclination, and he must have the consent of his wife.

The offspring of these lawful secondary marriages bear the name of their mother and are handed over to the care of the state, unless the mother assumes responsibility. They are to be regarded as fully equal members of society.

"The mothers wear a narrow wedding ring as a sign of their patriotism. The secondary marriage can be dissolved as soon as its object has been obtained."

STATE NEWS

Muskegon—Wilbur Boyer, British tank driver, has been spending a fortnight with his parents here.

Monroe—William Harris, 35 years old, laborer, was sentenced to 90 days in the Detroit house of correction for beating his wife with a broomstick.

Jackson—Bread prices in Jackson have been reduced through the efforts of Charles Hewitt, local food administrator, from 10 and 15 cents a loaf to 9 and 12 cents.

Saginaw—W. H. Wallace of the Michigan Sugar Co., has been named field agent of the federal food administration by George A. Prescott, state food administrator.

Adrian—Charles McKenna, of the Ypsilanti normal, and W. N. Ferris, of Peria Institute, of Big Rapids, will direct the annual county teachers' institute, which will be held here January 14-15.

Traverse City—George Carmion Snyder, 23, of this city, is the champion automobile "borrower" of northern Michigan, according to local authorities. They have traced at least 23 night stealings to him. He was sentenced by Judge Mayne, of the circuit court, to finish a term of two years at Ionia.

Freemont—Jewell Hewitt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hewitt of this city, a local volunteer in the United States army now in France, sends word to his parents that the opinion is general among the men along the western front that the Germans are making a final desperate attempt to break through the Allies' lines, hoping to consummate this action before a large number of American troops will be available to aid in turning them back.

Kalamazoo—The first local police woman will receive a salary of \$1,500 a year.

Albion—Local bakeries have eliminated all credit, telephone and delivery business.

Yale—Thomas H. Parkinson, 63 years old, a member of the state legislature of 1895, is dead.

Muskegon—All local patriotic campaigns will be handled through one organization in the future.

Allegan—Circuit Judge Cross assessed Charles Walker, of Valley, \$108.35 and seven months imprisonment in Ionia for violation of local option laws.

Owosso—After hearing of his capture and escape of his three brothers on the Cambrai front, Oscar Hindle left to join the navy. His brothers are with the 16th engineers.

Pontiac—By flashing moving pictures from a platform outside the Methodist church through a window toward the screen in the auditorium, a charity raffle was given. The fire marshal would not allow the machine to be used inside the building.

Battle Creek—Camp Custer officers are hoping other big hotels will follow the patriotic action of a big Woodward event hotel in Detroit which advised it would reduce by one-fifth its regular room rate for the benefit of Custer officers and their families visiting in Detroit.

Pontiac—Ten Detroit detectives and 23 Oakland county men were honorary pall bearers at the funeral of Sheriff O. H. P. Green, who shot himself last week. Charles Cross, under sheriff, has taken the oath of office as sheriff. All appointments by the late sheriff are nullified by his death.

Deerfield—John Mathieson, cashier of the Farmer's State bank, faces a charge of embezzling \$25,000. Mathieson is said to have lost the money in reckless speculations. The standing of the bank is not affected because of the resources of the stockholders among whom are Gov. Sleeper, Frank Hubbard, Sen. Forrester, Carl L. Opp and John Ryan.

Flint—Twenty-two Genesee county doctors are already in government service.

Grand Rapids—Mrs. Ida Kellogg, 25 years old, of McCord's, is dead as the result of burns received when a can of kerosene exploded in her hands. She was attempting to start a fire.

Pontiac—Oxford farmers have discovered large quantities of beans in threshed stacks and several have rethreshed their stacks. One recovered 17 bushels of beans and another 10. Uneven ripening, is said to be the cause.

Sault Ste. Marie—Using blank checks which he found in waste paper while firing the jail furnace, Joe Davis, convicted burglar, forged the name of Sam C. Taylor, county clerk, to two checks totaling \$260.90. The checks were made out to two Chicago firms and were enclosed in letters which ordered jewelry and musical instruments. An attempt was made to smuggle the letters out of the jail in the clothing of a prisoner whose sentence had just ended.

Battle Creek—Rudolph Shaur and Stanley Nemizka, two blacksmiths, paid fines for attempting to carry liquor into Camp Custer.

Menominee—Bernard, 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Rosario Benoit, of Marinette, was burned to death while sleeping. While the mother was out of the house an older brother set a broom alight by putting it in the stove and carried it to the child's bed. The bed was quickly ignited and when the mother returned the child was so badly burned that it was impossible to save its life.

Greenville—Four hundred farmers and potato buyers met here to discuss systems of potato grading, as recommended by the government. Many farmers, who say there is no market for No. 2 potatoes, have started a petition asking for one-grade system.

Traverse City—After wandering through the snow all night clad only in light clothing and slippers, Edward Drew, alleged German spy, who escaped from the Traverse City strait hospital where he had been confined temporarily, was captured "11 miles from here nearly frozen to death."

SCANDINAVIAN NEWS

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS IN FAR OFF NORTHLAND.

ITEMS FROM THE OLD HOME

Resume of the Most Important Events in Sweden, Norway and Denmark—Of Interest to the Scandinavians in America.

DENMARK.

A number of organizations in Jylland invited Consul Stoussand of Sjælland, Norway, to lecture on a proposition to start a line of car ferries between Frederikshavn, Denmark, and Brevik, Norway. The lecture was given at Aarhus in a large hall, which was packed to its utmost capacity. Mr. Stoussand explained the advantages to be derived from such a line to both countries, and the vigorous applause at the close of the lecture proved that his words had fallen on favorable ground. Only one vote was cast against a resolution urging the Danish and Norwegian committee to continue their work for the establishment of such a line. The adoption of the resolution was greeted with animated applause.

Indignation was expressed by Danish newspapers following official denial issued by the foreign office that it was threat of German seizure of a base in Denmark to counterbalance an alleged grant of a similar base in Norway to the allies that caused the conference of Scandinavian monarchs and premiers at Christiania. "We can assure the American press," the Politiken asserted, "that Germany's alleged threat against Denmark was a pure invention. It would be agreeable if the American press would not make Denmark the subject of such fantasies, but give better understanding in Denmark's actual and real difficulties."

The number of marriages has increased in the Danish capital during the war. There was a slight decrease in 1915, but that loss has been made up. Even in 1915 there was an increase of marriages in one parish, "Garrison parish." This was due to the fact that a large number of soldiers entered marriage because the state offered extra pecuniary aid to married soldiers.

The budget for the coming year puts the receipts of the government at about \$52,000,000. The expenditures are put at about \$55,000,000, which would give a surplus of about \$17,000,000. But as about \$4,000,000 of this amount is to be used for the acquisition of property, the real surplus will be only about \$13,000,000.

Several cases of night blindness have been discovered among the children of the training school at Himmelsbjerggaard, Jylland. The ailment has also been noticed elsewhere. It is said to be due to a lack of fats in the food used by the patients. Night blindness in children is apt to develop into complete blindness in the course of time.

The government has put an embargo on the exportation of all kinds of goat skins.

SWEDEN.

A Christmas armistice is urged in a message to all belligerent countries by the Swedish Peace Arbitration society.

The war trade board's terms on which exports of food would be permitted to go to the Scandinavian countries are said by diplomats in Washington cognizant of their nature to be so strict that they expect those nations to refuse them. Norway, Sweden and Denmark are said to feel that to curtail exports to Germany to the point asked by the board would force them into the war. The board's terms have been called absurd, but no answer has been received. The announcement that the three kings of Scandinavia had agreed in conference to mutual aid during the war was taken as forecasting a rejection of the terms laid down by the war board. Sweden was first asked to shut off entirely the shipment of iron ore to Germany. When she explained her situation the demand was modified, but only to a degree, which Sweden felt would mean violation of her treaty and contract. That Sweden declined to do, fearing Germany would make it a cause for war. It was said that Scandinavian countries felt that it was better for them to give each other what relief they can rather than run the risk of being drawn into the war.

The Swedish Academy of Antiquities has decided to take the steps suggested by the national antiquarian for the preservation of the remains of the famous castle and astronomical observatory built on the island of Hveen by Tycho Brahe, the great astronomer. The buildings were put up during the years 1576-1580. They were badly neglected, and in less than a hundred years were reduced to mere ruins. The excavations are expected to bring to light interesting objects from past ages.

An energetic anti-war has been started in Gothenburg. The board of health has opened stations where the carcasses are received. A uniform price of a little over three cents is paid for every rat. The richest part of this story is that the fat is extracted from the rats and turned into lubricating oils.

Doctor Westman, under secretary for foreign affairs, resigned. Westman is alleged to have handled the Luxburg and Ordnholm messages for Germany.

The offer of Sweden to mediate between Russia and Germany may properly be regarded as an unfriendly act, according to authorities in international law in Washington, who declared that the recognition by Sweden of the bolshevik government was of itself prejudicial to the interests of the allies and might be regarded as deliberate hostility. Sweden, it was charged, had "gone out of her way" to befriended the central powers by offering mediation, recognizing the bolsheviks as the national government of Russia when such recognition had not previously been extended by either of the belligerent groups, creating the appearance of acting in a partisan manner for a selfish interest rather than to promote the cause of peace in the world. Sweden also made the offer and granted recognition of the bolsheviks despite the refusal of the Russian legation at Stockholm to recognize the authority of the maximalists and the repudiation of the usurping bolsheviks by Russian diplomats throughout the world. This circumstance was taken to aggravate the Swedish offense, but it was indicated that there was nothing the allies could do to resent it further than to disclose their displeasure, which, however, would be of little practical effect on account of the restrictions they already have placed on Swedish commerce and communications as a result of the secret service the Swedish foreign office rendered to Germany under the protection of Swedish diplomatic immunity.

NORWAY.

Norway, Sweden and Denmark have entered a new agreement to preserve "the utmost neutrality." An official statement announced this result of the conference of the Scandinavian kings and statesmen which took place in Christiania a few days ago. The conference, according to announcement, agreed on "Scandinavian harmony and mutual confidence, regardless of the length of the war, each nation to observe the utmost neutrality and all to assist each other by exchange of merchandise." An agreement was reached on the following points: First—By reason of the harmony existing between the three countries, however long the war may last and whatever form it may take, the cordial relations and mutual confidence of the three kingdoms shall be maintained. Second—In conformity with the previous declarations and policies of the three countries, it is the full intention of their governments each for itself to observe the utmost degree of neutrality toward all belligerent powers. Third—The desire is expressed reciprocally to aid one another with merchandise during the present difficulties, and special representatives are to meet immediately to facilitate the exchange of merchandise. At the meeting there was a discussion in reference to legislation dealing with the relations of foreigners and Scandinavian subjects. An agreement also was reached regarding the continuation of preparatory measures toward safeguarding the common interests of neutrals during and after the war.

Arne Bjørndal has been hired by the national government to collect old dancing tunes and other instrumental music. He has just finished his tour of Satesdalen, where he says he made a "rich harvest." Some of the tunes came from Telemarken, that great storehouse of original Norwegian tunes, but they have been modified to suit the taste of the people of Satesdalen. Most of the tunes collected by Mr. Bjørndal, however, are peculiar to Satesdalen, and he was greatly surprised to find that so many were the exclusive property of Satesdalen. A large proportion of the tunes are waltzes. It was high time that the tunes were saved from oblivion. There are but few fiddlers left in the valley. Modern revivals have smashed the fiddles and muzzled the fiddlers. Arne Bjørndal is the only man doing this kind of work in Norway, making it "quite impossible to cover the field," he says. The music that he collects is sent to the university library for safe keeping. Future ages may find something very valuable in these simple sheets.

A terrible scandal was avoided just in the nick of time at the recent unveiling of a Greig monument in Bergen. The statue was wrapped in a large piece of old cloth which was to be dropped at the appropriate moment. Everything was supposed to be in order. One of the attendants was too impatient, and he pulled a corner of the old cloth aside to look inside. What horror! There the famous composer seemed to be standing in his night shirt! The statue had been covered with white sheeting, and the committee of arrangements had forgotten to remove it. Now the sheet was removed just in time to prevent the counterfeiter of Edvard Grieg from being presented to admiring thousands in what appeared to be a night shirt.

The construction of a large part of the heating stoves in use in Christiania is of such a character that much of the heat is wasted. To buy a new stove of a more practical construction nowadays is a very serious matter on account of the abnormally high price. Johan Skatteboe, a young engineer in Christiania, has made a timely invention which he offers as a cheap way out of the difficulty. His invention consists of cast iron plates which are placed in the stoves in such a manner as to increase the circulation of the heat and smoke.

Thorvald Fredriksen of Porsgrund has invented a new kind of shoe sole. The new article is made of a number of layers of birch bark glued together with a substance made up of several ingredients, two of which are known only to the inventor. Practical tests have proved that the new sole is absolutely watertight, feels warm and comfortable to the foot, and stands a good deal of wear. Mr. Fredriksen has given the name "Amphibian" to his invention.

BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

SCOUTS HALT PENNY FAMINE

Uncle Sam has found another real war job for his great army of scout-uniformed boys. They are to be organized into a "penny brigade," and will make one grand charge to help relieve the penny famine.

No longer need the little lad, brave in his boy scout uniform, watch with envy his more fortunate brother who has donated the khaki of his country. He can do his part at home, as he did in the Liberty Loan canvass.

Postmaster W. B. Carille of Chicago suggests that the young patriots climb up to a certain shelf where rests the penny savings banks of the younger members of the family, usually sacred to the memory of Christmas, and have father or mother change the pennies for dollars, half-dollars, quarters, dimes and nickels. The pennies are to be spent with the butcher, the baker, the grocer and the landlord, or any other way.

Mr. Carille believes this outpouring of pennies from the children's banks of the country will be a big lift to Uncle Sam in meeting a problem brought about by conditions due to the war. The post office is feeling the penny shortage the same as all business houses. The government is unable to coin pennies as fast as they are needed.

SCOUTS ARE FINEST LOYALISTS.

When this affair with the wild men of Berlin is over and we begin to distribute honors and rewards, something large and magnificent will have to be struck off for the boy scouts, says the Detroit Journal. They are somewhat overshadowed today by their elders, but their labors, eager and ungrudging, are of high importance.

Is there to be a parade? The boy scouts must be called out to guard the lines and to help the police handle the crowds. Is there to be a patriotic meeting? Why, there you'll see the scouts acting as ushers and keeping the entrances cleared. The youngsters not merely march to weariness to further the Liberty loans, but also they hustle for subscriptions themselves. There are no more practical patriots, no Americans more thorough and through American.

It will be a problem to decide what to give the scouts who are giving so greatly of their best. It cannot be anything small.

SCOUTS ALWAYS MAKE GOOD.

"Since the Boy Scouts of America have taken over the responsibility of distributing the food conservation cards, I believe its success is assured," said a prominent citizen of Birmingham, Ala. "Everything that boy scouts ever have undertaken has proved a great success. The scout organization seems to bring out the very finest qualities in boys, and among the most excellent of these is their feeling of pride in responsibility and determination to meet that responsibility."

"I never yet have known a scout to fall down on a job or to fail to show up where and when he was expected to. They are a fine army of soldiers and a great bunch to have in behind any phase of the government work that such boys can manage."

ONE BOY SCOUT'S "PRAYER."

Scout A. Page of Chicago, wrote this letter to the Chicago Herald:

To the Editor: The prayer I learned at kindergarten runs through my head every morning before I'm fairly awake. The first line goes all right, but what do you think of the others? They've bothered me a lot.

Now before we work today, We must not forget to pray To God, who kept us through the night And brought us up to the morning light.

Help us, Lord, to lick the Kaiser, And make him see he had been wiser Not to make him so cruel and bad To learn he couldn't eat the world up.

"Tain't made to eat, he can't digest it." (This nasty, too, where Hunt infers it.) So help us, Lord, to smack it to him, And never stop until we "do" him.

SCOUTS HAVE A THRIFT CLUB.

The Boy Scouts Saving club was organized by Boy Scout Troop No. 82 for all boy scout troops of Milwaukee. Only boy scouts are entitled to make a deposit.

The savings club was organized to encourage the thrift habit, which is part of the scouts' program. The club is in care of the National Exchange bank.

A bank book is issued to each scout that makes a deposit of 50 cents or more, and the account draws interest at the rate of 3 per cent.

SCOUTS FIND WHISKY CACHE.

A party of boy scouts on a hike near Danforth, Wash., discovered a cache of whisky and telephoned the police station for instructions. Capt. George Miles of Spokane directed the boys to remain there and he would send officers for the liquor.

The police greyhound went out with detectives and picked up the boys and proceeded to the cache, where they found more than 100 bottles of liquor in seven sacks, which was taken to the station.

SCOUTS HELP Y. M. C. A. FUND.

Thousands of boy scouts qualified in the campaign to secure boys who would be willing to earn ten dollars during the next five months to help a prisoner-of-war, an American soldier or a soldier of our allies. The scouts welcome every practical way to show the spirit of helpfulness to others. Not ask, but action, is their motto. This is part of the big movement to secure \$5,000,000 for the war.

URGENT POLYGAMY IN GERMANY

Movement to Allow "Secondary Marriages" With Object of Increasing the Nation's Man Power.

A pamphlet urging "secondary marriages" to increase the nation's "man power" is circulating in Germany.

It is called "secondary marriage as the only means for the rapid creation of a new and powerful army and the purification of morality."

The author, Carl Herman Terge-



In anticipation of this Christmas season we hunted the markets for just such things that would best appeal to Xmas shoppers of Grayling and surrounding country. Every article must contain merit, beauty, usefulness and durability, trash was entirely eliminated. We are only going to mention a few articles in this advertisement, but ask that you come into our store and see the hundreds of fine things for yourself.

Handsone White Ivory Articles
Beautiful Cut Glass in many shapes
Perfumes of Many Odors and Artistically Bottled. Also in Bulk
A nice lot of Perfumizers--Best out
Toilet Waters of every kind
Fine Assortment of Fancy Stationery
Thermos Bottles--try the Guaranteed Unbreakable Kind
Lowney's and other Candies--in bulk and Fancy Boxes
Cigars--all the preferred brands. Also Tobacco Cigarettes and Pipes

Central Drug Store

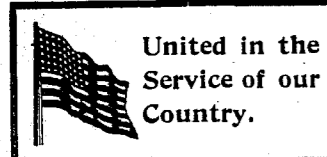
Crawford Avalanche

O. P. Schumann, Editor and Proprietor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
One Year.....\$1.50
Six Months......75
Three Months......40

Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice, Grayling, Mich., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

GRAYLING, THURSDAY, DEC. 20



JUST to think that one man can be the cause of all this misery of the world to-day! Arouse yourselves, people, and use every fair effort to crush this monster and the German military circle. Can you learn of the suffering and hardship of our friends across the sea without it bringing to you a heart-ache? If so it is because you cannot or will not fully understand. Our good American boys have joined their fortunes of war with the boys of Europe, all fighting in the common cause of Justice and Humanity. What are we doing here at home? To some, their mode of living, their usual pleasures, luxuries and comforts remain the same as before America entered the war. This is unfair. It makes no difference how much income or salary you may have, you owe it to this Nation to get right down and dig, save and sacrifice and dedicate the fruits of your savings and earnings to the cause of war. We believe that every person who willfully blocks the progress of war in any way should be brot up with a halt so sudden that their teeth will all fall out of their

mouths. Then if they don't come to their right senses, they should be interned, same as a prisoner of war, and kept there until their disloyal influence may be freed from its danger. We have no sons or daughters serving in the war but we have a lot of Crawford county lads in the service and they are entitled to every ounce of help we can give them.

Now don't wait until the sting of war comes home to you before you get into the harness, and make this war a part of your personal business in real, downright earnestness. Just think of the great suffering among women and children, as well as the soldiers, in Belgium, France, Germany and the other countries due to this wholesale massacre that is going on. President Wilson and congress declared that America must enter the war in the cause of democracy, justice and humanity. It is not for any of us to say they were wrong. They have every means available for learning the truths first hand, and our judgment should be swept aside and every loyal citizen should wholly support our government in this war.

You may ask, what can I do? If you don't know what you can do, go to the heads of any of the several local committees and offer them your service. No doubt they will be gladly accepted. There is the Red Cross, Food conservation committee, War savings committee, Liberty loan, Y. M. C. A. and others. These all have sub-committees that can use you. See that you are a member of the Red Cross and ask your neighbor to join. This is National Red cross week. Join before Christmas and make this a Red Cross Christmas. There are many things you can do. Just save a little more of that wheat flour, a little more fat, and a whole lot more sugar each week. Doing just a little better won't hurt any of us. Ask your friends to do the same and then practice.

SUGGESTIONS For CHRISTMAS

Head Lettuce, lb...	35c	Apples, pk.....	75c	Mince Meat, 5 lb.	
Leaf Lettuce, lb...	25c	Sweet Potatoes, lb.	10c	stone jar.....	1.25
Tomatoes, lb.....	30c	Cranberries, qt...	20c	Yellow Free Peach-	
Celery, bunch.....	10c	Preserves, tall jar...	45c	es, can.....	40c
Radishes, bunch...	5c	Jams, Richelieu b'd	35c	Royal Anne Cher-	
Grapes, lb.....	15c	Jellies, 15c and...	25c	ries, can.....	45c
Bananas, lb.....	8c	Marmalades, all k'ds	35c	Pumpkin and Spin-	
Green Peppers 5c		Grape Juice, qt....	50c	ach, can.....	20c
each, doz.....	40c	Plum and Fig Pud-		Candies all kinds and	
Oranges, doz.....	40c	ding, lb, can.....	60c	Prices.....	
Grape Fruit, 2 for.	25c	Olives, qt.....	50c	Nuts, mixed, lb...	17c
Tangerines, doz...	40c	Corn, Richelieu b'd	22c	Figs and Dates... 18c-20c	

We Have Special Sales on Some Things Saturday
THE SANITARY STORE and OLD MASTER COFFEE

THE SIMPSON CO.

GROCERS

Local News

John Larson and John Benson are spending the week in Bay City.

Miss Dora Sanyo of Bay is a guest at the Mrs. L. Tetu home over Xmas. We have a nice line of fresh vegetables--lettuce, green onions, and celery. Leave your orders early.

H. Petersen, Grocer.

Mrs. Abraham J. Joseph returned Thursday after having spent some time in Clare, Saginaw and Mt. Pleasant, visiting friends.

The members of the Woman's club enjoyed a thimble party and pot luck supper, at the home of Mrs. Chas. Bligham's Monday evening.

Mrs. Herman Doroh was called to Tawas City Tuesday by the death of her sister, who passed away in a Bay City hospital Sunday. Her little son, Frederick accompanied her.

Mr. Holger Hanson was host to a number of ladies and gentlemen at a dinner at Shoppenagon's Inn, Sunday afternoon. Mr. Fink set up a finely appointed dinner which was greatly enjoyed by those present.

Walter Doroh, who formerly took tickets at the moving picture show, suffered a painful injury Sunday, while cutting down a tree, to be used as a Christmas tree. The hatchet which he was using slipped cutting off the greater part of the thumb of his left hand.

The Garment association assisted by the Red Cross committee gave a tea for the benefit of the Red Cross Saturday afternoon. Fancy Christmas articles were sold. There was a splendid attendance and receipts amounted to over twenty-eight dollars. Much credit is due the young ladies of this association.

Inspector Mrs. James H. Wingard was in Bay City last week, inspecting Circle VanBuren Circle no. 83 of the G. A. R. Mrs. Wingard went from Bay City to Fowlerville where she spent a few days visiting her daughters. She was accompanied home by her daughter Edna Moshier, who will remain here indefinitely.

The port of New York is under military control, the water fronts being guarded by the Regular Army. Fully armed guards prohibit the passage of any person, alien or citizen, who can not establish a business reason for access to the waterfront areas. The same military control will be established at all other American ports and may include factories engaged in war work.

Only five days before Christmas and have you bought your Christmas seals? Call on the boy scouts or the ladies of the Good Fellowship club. They will see that you will get as many stamps as you wish. Put these seals on your parcels, letters, checks, and bills you owe--buy all you can, the money stays in Crawford Co. to help the unfortunate, who are afflicted with tuberculosis. So come along and buy a few stamps. P. G. Zalsman, Red Cross seal agent for Crawford Co.

LEGAL ADVISORY BOARD ORGANIZED.

Will Assist Registrants to Make Out Questionnaire.

A legal advisory board has been organized in Crawford county for the purpose of aiding registrants in making out their Questionnaire. The latter consists of sixteen pages and many of the questions asked are very complexing, even to the better informed registrants.

The legal advisory board for Crawford county consists of the following attorneys: Geo. L. Alexander, O. Palmer, Glenn Smith and Homer L. Fitch. With them are associated the following persons:

O. P. Schumann, Fred R. Welsh, Ben Hardquist, Rev. J. J. Riess, Rev. Mitchell, and Emil Geising, Miss Anna Nelson, Mrs. Mollie Michelson, and Miss Margarette Bauman of Grayling; and James A. Kalahar and Chas. Craven of Frederic; Robert Papenfuss and Ray Owen, Lovella; J. F. Crane and Oliver B. Scott, South Branch township; and Frank Love, Beaver Creek township.

These persons have pledged their aid free of charge to any registrants who may need assistance in making out their reports. The questionnaires will be sent each registrant in regular order, 20 each day, and upon receipt of same the registrant will be allowed seven days from the date of issue in which to file his report with the Local board.

Applicants should fill out the questions as far as they are able before requesting assistance, however before doing so they should carefully read over the instructions on pages 2 and 3. As there is considerable work in making out one of the questionnaires, registrants are requested to be prompt in making out their reports, to avoid the rush at the last hour. This may avoid possible errors that may result to the disadvantage of the registrant.

Notice.

On and after this date we will operate on a strictly cash basis no coal will be delivered except on C. O. D. or cash with order. Prevailing conditions necessitate this action.

City Coal Yard
Dec. 13-1917 J. M. Bunting, Prop.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

This is not only one of the best and most efficient medicines for coughs, colds, croup, whooping, etc., but is also pleasant and safe to take, which is important when medicine must be given to children. Many mothers have given it their unqualified endorsement. adv

CHRISTMAS



Sincerely appreciative of the part your
friendship and patronage has played in
our progress we extend to you Christmas
Greetings and our sincere good wishes.
Salling, Hanson Co.

In accordance with the old holiday custom you will want to remember those of your family and close friends with suitable gifts. Make this Christmas a sensible one and with due regard to the spirit of the times--Economy. Wearing apparel for ladies, gents' and children is always deemed appropriate and appreciated. For the ladies we have a full line of

Waists, Undergarments,
Hosiery, Gloves,
Shoes, Slippers
and many other desirable articles

For the men we are offering an extra desirable lot of

Ties--Four-in-Hand and Bows
Gloves, Mittens, Shoes, Hosiery
and hundreds of other articles

Of course you will want to make the day one that is a little different from the usual daily custom, and the table will want to add its cheer to the family circle. We have taken special care to have on hand all the desirable articles carried in high class grocery departments that may appeal to you for the Christmas dinner

Fruits--We have an excellent lot of choice Fresh
Fruits. Also candied and preserved fruits.

Salling, Hanson Co.

The Pioneer Store

The man who wears out his welcome may have some difficulty in getting another one that will fit.--Philadelphia Record.

M'CLARYGRAMS

Too many excuses are an indication of no good reason.

We think some people's good manners must be good only because they have never used them.

Many a man who sets out to place something on a solid foundation, only succeeds in putting it on the rocks.

The person who puts two and two together and gets four, is a wonder; most of us do this and arrive at a result of seven or eight.

Rudeness is an effective pruning-hook; but one can never be sure just where it is going to cut, and whom it is going to hurt worst.

A woman who is moderately happy can make herself supremely miserable by thinking what a really good time she might be having, if she were having it.

Courtesy is indeed one of the most profitable characteristics one can have. But like everything else, it will be found that the genuine commands an immeasurably better price than the artificial, cultivated for effect alone.--McClary's Magazine.

FLASHLIGHTS

The difference between a friend and an acquaintance is that a friend helps where an acquaintance merely advises.

Mother scolds a good deal about it, but we notice that if he doesn't come in at noon with his clothing mud-covered she thinks something is the matter with him.--Detroit Free Press.

Don't judge what a man was by the size of his gravestone. It's the modest grave that is visited ofttest.

The man who doubts that there's a hereafter probably doubted once that boats would ever travel under water.

A clever man probably hasn't more brains than his neighbor. He just makes better use of what he has.

STAR BEAMS

Whiskers show which way the wind blows.

One way to make an army fly is to break its wings.

The bunko man's income is merely a tax on credulity.

BIG RED CROSS SPEAKERS BUREAU

State Speakers of Prominence Helping With Christmas Membership Drive.

Detroit--A state speaker's bureau which will insure able speakers for every community of Michigan is just one of the campaign plans which is rapidly nearing perfection, according to an announcement made today at state headquarters of the American National Red Cross. The work of lining up the speakers' organization has been done under the direction of Paul H. King, director of publicity, and the message of the Christmas membership drive will be carried the length and breadth of Michigan, Mr. King says.

Already more than 100 speakers of state prominence have been signed for duty in both the Lower and Upper Peninsula, the list including leading business and professional men. Detroit has contributed about half these men, but all sections of the state are represented in the list.

Besides these speakers, there will be a large corps of four-minute men in every local community. While many of the latter will confine their efforts to brief explanations of the purpose of the drive in motion picture theaters, churches and other like gathering places, many of them, under Mr. King's direction will carry the message of the Red Cross Christmas membership drive to mass meetings and other special gatherings. Ward N. Choate, State Chairman, of the Four-Minute Men, and the local chairman and members throughout the state are giving splendid co-operation.

"Of course it would be impossible for Detroit speakers, for instance, to go away out in the Upper Peninsula for a mass meeting, but our organization is such that, regardless of where the gathering to be held, we will have a capable talker available," said Mr. King, today. "We believe that by sending men but short distances we can cover the entire state on short notice, and stand ready to receive requests from local organizations in any part of Michigan at any time."

Children as Red Cross Workers. Children in the public schools throughout the country are to help the cause of the Red Cross. Many of the simple articles and supplies needed in the hospitals will be made in the ordinary course of their school work, and this material contribution to the comfort of our soldiers will be of great importance.

FOR QUICK RESULTS USE OUR WANT COLUMN--The Cost Is Small.

WANTS

Advertisements will be accepted under this heading at the rate of 8 cents per line. No ad. taken for less than 15 cents. There are about six words to the line. SEND MONEY WITH THE ORDER.

FOR SALE--Steel kitchen Range and dining table. Earl Folami, south side. Address general delivery, Grayling. 12-20-2.

FOR SALE--One work horse, 11 years old, weight 1300 lbs. Sound and gentle. John Knecht, Sigsbee, Mich. 12-20-2.

FOR SALE--One new milch cow, cheap. Inquire of F. H. Milks, Grayling.

WORK WANTED--After school and Saturdays, by young man. Inquire of Avalanche office. 12-20-3.

FOR SALE--Three year old sorrel horse; weight 1250 pounds. Inquire of Mrs. John Hanna, Beaver Creek. 12-13-4

WANTED--Desirable place for girl of nine years to board and go to school, from Sundays to Saturday nights. Write or phone Geo. Brown, Military Reservation.

WOOD FOR SALE--Dry Jack-Pine Phone 1 long, 1 short, and 1 long Ralph Hanna, Beaver Creek, P. O. Grayling. 12-20-3

FOR SALE--A piece of land on T-Town road adjoining M. C. R. R. tracks approx 23 acres. I will sell this at a real bargain to close out my interests in this vicinity. Address J. W. Overton, R. F. D. No. 1 Flint Mich. 12-20-3

TWO ROOMS--To rent, partly furnished. Mrs. O. Corwin.

STRAYED--A black yearling bull with straight horns with a notch on the left ear. Please notify Louis Delaire, Frederic, Mich. 12-20-3

NICE CLEAN cotton wiping rags wanted at the Avalanche office. Will pay 5 cents per pound.

HOW TO SAVE A BILLION A YEAR

Co-operation Between Wage-Earners and Wage-Payers Will Save an Enormous Loss.

There is an estimated waste of a billion dollars annually in industry in the United States, due to labor troubles. This billion dollars could better be employed to the advantage of both the man who hires and the man who is hired. Capital can gain no advantage by fighting labor, and labor can gain no advantage fighting capital. The result of the battle is always an expensive draw.

On all sides, however, are to be found evidences that both parties have begun to realize the futility of endless friction.--Industrial Organization, New York.

QUOTAS FOR THE RED CROSS XMAS MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN



This map shows very graphically the number of NEW members which each Red Cross Chapter in the State is expected to secure in the Christmas "drive," each chapter to hold its present membership and to secure the number indicated in addition. The State is fully organized, each county having one principal chapter and as many branches as it may form. There are 500,000 members of the Red Cross in Michigan today—the goal of the campaign is 750,000 by Christmas Eve. LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP HELP TO SWELL THE TOTAL.

Date, December.....1917

MRS. OLAF MICHELSON, Sec'y.,
Grayling, Mich.

I hereby apply for membership in the Crawford County
Chapter American Red Cross and enclose \$.....
(\$1.00 or more.)

Name.....

Address.....

CHRISTMAS



This year we are showing the largest and finest
assortment of

XMAS CANDIES

ever shown in town.

We have a complete line of Nuts, Pop-
corn, Popcorn Balls, Dates and Figs
and don't forget to order a box of Barnum's Ani-
mals for the children. —We have 200 boxes at
the lowest prices.

Our Grocery Department

Is complete and up-to-date and we can surely fill
your order to the best of satisfaction. Remember
we handle a complete line of Bakery Goods
fresh every day from HORNKOHL'S BAKERY
of Manistee.

P. S.—Make this Xmas the happiest one you have had in
years by leaving your order at

We will have a complete line of green stuffs for
the Holiday trade—Lettuce, Green Onions, etc.
Leave your order early.

PETERSEN'S

The store that gives QUALITY, SERVICE, PRICE
PHONE ORDERS PROMPTLY FILLED

WANT A GOOD POSITION?

PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE BY ATTENDING THE
DETROIT
Barnum's University

Local News

GRAYLING, THURSDAY, DEC. 20

Make this a Red Cross Christmas—
Join today.

Mr. and Mrs. William McNeven
were in Bay City Monday.

Miss Odle Sheehy returned Satur-
day from a week's stay in Bay City.

Charles Abbott of the Lewis Drug
store is at home entertaining the
mumps.

Russell Robertson has returned from
an extended visit with his sister in
Detroit.

Henry Joseph returned Tuesday
from a business trip to Detroit and
other cities.

Mrs. U. R. Layman, Mrs. George
Burke, Misses Celia Callahan and
Jessie Reynolds all of Frederic were
Grayling callers Monday.

Earl McMahon has resigned his
position at the local Express office
and has left for Detroit to make his
home. Louis Burton is filling the
position.

You are cordially invited to attend
a Band dance at the Temple theatre
Friday night, Dec. 21st, music by
Clark's full orchestra and band.
Price 75c per couple.

Leo Miller, who has been employed
at the Landsberg store here and lately
at the Cosmopolitan restaurant, re-
turned Wednesday of last week to his
home in West Branch.

John Engbee, employed at the Du-
Pont Co. plant, as time-keeper, had
the misfortune to fall down the back
step of his home, last Thursday morn-
ing, dislocating one of his shoulders.

Crawford County needs 300 more
Red Cross members—Join today.
Apply at Bank of Grayling, Bank of
Frederic or Mrs. Olaf Michelson, and
receive a Red Cross button and ser-
vice flag.

Red Cross members are requested
to display their service flags and on
Christmas eve place a lighted candle
or electric light behind it. If you
haven't received yours notify Mrs.
Olaf Michelson, secretary, at once.

On a complaint made by sheriff
Cody, J. M. Bunting, a local coal
dealer was arrested for selling coal
short weight. He was tried in ju-
stice court before a jury and found
guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of
\$50.00 and costs, amounting in all to
\$72.29. The complaint arose over a
load of coal that was delivered to
Ernest Richards at the Cosmopolitan
restaurant, Monday December 10, pur-
porting to weigh a ton. Mr. Richards
doubted its weight and called sheriff
Cody to investigate it. Borrowing a
pair of scales sheriff Cody weighed
the coal and found that at the time
there was only 1292 pounds. The coal
was delivered by Clarence VanAm-
berg, who swore on the stand that
there was 2,000 pounds delivered, but
said that there was considerable snow
and ice in the load, and remarked to
Mr. Richards, after an argument over
the quantity, that if he waited a couple
of days there wouldn't be half a ton,
inferring that the ice and snow by
that time would be melted. This he
stated on the stand, was only said as
a joke. He claimed Mr. Bunting di-
rected him that he should not make
any allowance for snow and ice. Sheriff
Cody said Mr. Bunting told him,
after he had been arrested, "he
wished he had come and seen him per-
haps they could have fixed it up." Mr.
VanAmberg said that he was
ordered to go and get the coal and
when he got there Mr. Richards
wouldn't let him have it. On the
stand Mr. Bunting stated that he want-
ed to take it back and weigh it. He
claimed he directed his teamster to
deliver a full ton and if there was a
shortage he had no knowledge of it.
The defense based their claims on the
fact that Mr. Bunting knew nothing of
the shortage, and also that the scales
used by the sheriff might have been
incorrect, and that some of the coal
may have been used before the sheriff
weighed it. Mr. Bunting states that
he will appeal the case to circuit court.

Merry Xmas

Make it a Merry Xmas
and more—a merry year
all the way thru—by
having HATHAWAY
fit you with a pair of his
scientifically made glass-
es. You know the kind.
You have heard of

HATHAWAY SERVICE

Give some one in need
of glasses an order on
us and send a M. O. or
a check for \$4.00 or more
with instructions, and
we will take care of the
rest at their convenience.

Yours for service,

C. J. HATHAWAY
OPTOMETRIST
and JEWELER

"Do your bit" by conserving your
nervous energy thru the use of Hatha-
way's glasses.

Mrs. Will J. Graham returned Sat-
urday from Bay City after a short
visit with her sister, Miss Celia Si-
valls.

James Compton of Mullet Lake, left
on Tuesday for Detroit, where he ex-
pects to enlist, preferably in the avia-
tion corps.—Cheboygan Democrat.
Mr. Compton is well-known in this
city especially among the railroad em-
ployees.

Every postal employee in the United
States has been instructed to take an
active part in the campaign for the
sale of war-savings stamps. In order
to reach the desired sales mark of
\$2,000,000,000 by January 1, 1919, it
will be necessary to sell sufficient
stamps to average \$16.50 for each
man, woman, and child in the country.

Get your tires and tubes at Burke's
garage.

High School Five Defeats All City.

In a fast and rough game at the
High school gymnasium Friday even-
ing, marked by good defensive work
on the part of the school team, the
High school five defeated the All City,
a quintet of veterans, by the score of
20-19. True to advance dope the
game was close and rough. It was evi-
dent from the opening minutes of
the game that foot ball ability was to
play an important part in deciding the
contest. Playing up and tuck, the
High school aggregation came from
behind in the final minutes and decid-
ed the game with two field baskets
and a free throw.

Coach Cane is working the members
of the High school team to the limit
in preparation for their next two
games with Alpena and Bay City
Eastern.

Loring referee and Cane as em-
pire handled the game with complete sat-
isfaction. Summary:

ALL CITY	HIGH SCHOOL
McDermid.....L. F.....Chamberlin	
Milnes.....R. F.....Melstrup	
Johnson.....C.....Thompson	
Hewitt.....L. G.....Papendick	
Shannahan.....R. G.....Case	
Burton.....Utility.....Roeser	
	Bates, Scorer.

The high school second team de-
feated the All-City second team 26 to
18. Roeser and McClain starred for
the high school and Charlefour for
All-City second teams.

Goodfellowship Club Notes.

The club met with Miss Isabel
Case.

The meeting was very interesting
even though there was a small atten-
dance.

The roll call, current events brot
out our present conditions.

Mrs. Marius Hanson read several
selections from Edgar Guest.

President Wilson's recent address
to congress was read and discussed.

The meeting adjourned until Janu-
ary 7th.

Some Safety Thoughts For The Xmas Season.

The Christmas season, that period
of the year when joy and happiness
should reign supreme and gladness
should never be dimmed by accidents
or adversity is now knocking at our
door and will be there almost before
we are ready for it.

At this time before we enter into
the preparation for the holidays and
before the time we will be permitted
to participate in the various Christ-
mas time events it may be well for us
to stop and think quietly just a min-
ute or two over some simple rules
for safety.

That Christmas tree. Do not de-
corate it with flimsy material hung too
near candles or lights.

Santa Claus bring a little discre-
tion with you from the far north.
Long cotton whiskers and inflam-
mable garments and a burning can-
dle are a bad combination.

Do not use decorations near candles
or too near lights of any kind.

Mr. Merchant examine the wiring
which may lead to lights used for
decorative purposes.

Do not leave small children alone
with Christmas trees on which are
hung lighted candles.

Electricity should be used where
possible for decorative purposes.

Cut out where possible the use of
flimsy material for decorations.

Avoid mechanical toys that require
alcohol or gasoline.

Do not use cotton to secure a snow
effect. Mineral wool or asbestos
would be better to use in your de-
corative scheme.

Keep the matches away from the
children.

Caution "Dad" or "Brother" to be
careful with their cigar or cigarette
stubs.

Let the home or the store be warm
but look out for over heated stoves
or pipes.

Let's have a Christmas without a
single thing or regret to mar it.

Season's Greeting

The spirit of the season
prompts us to express to you
appreciation of our pleasant
business relations during the
past year and to most heartily
wish you health and prosperity
for the coming year.

Grayling Mercantile Co.



Morse Chocolates



Boxes 30c to \$6.00

Cigars

55c to \$5
per box

Knives

50c to \$4
each

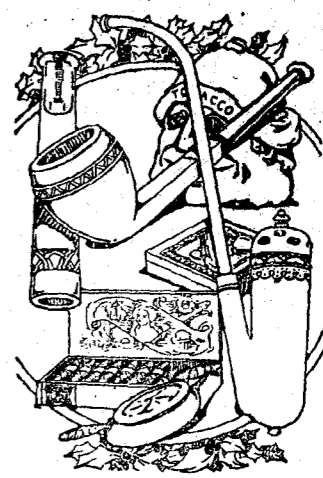
Safety Razors

\$1 to \$5

Yearly Subscription to any Magazine

35c to \$6.00 Each

Pipes



35c to \$6.00 Each

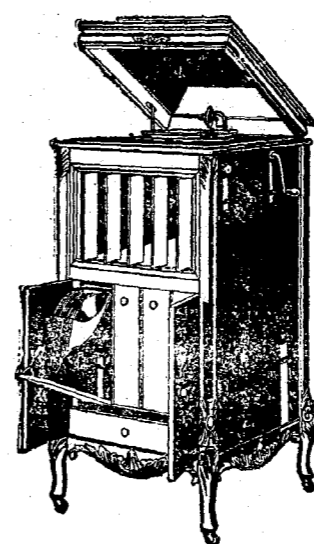
Cigar and Cigarette Holders

25c to \$5.00

Cigar and Cigarette Cases

35c to \$2.00

Grafonolas and Records



EASY PAYMENT. Buy now
and pay after Xmas

Athletic Goods



Foot Balls, Base Balls, Tennis Rackets,
Gloves, Mitts, Bats, Etc.

Eveready Daylos
\$1.00 to \$3.25

Olaf Sorenson & Sons

FREDERIC NEWS

Merry Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Forbush expect to
spend Xmas at Grayling, at the
home of the latter's parents, Mrs. J.
Cameron.

The Misses Salome Forbush and
Erma Craven, spent Saturday in
Grayling.

Mrs. Geo. Horton and Mrs. Gus
Shultz, were called to Grayling Tues-
day by the serious illness of their
father, Mr. J. Karnes.

Miss Mae McDermid spent Mon-
day in Gaylord.

The dance given Thursday even-
ing of last week was a great success,
and everyone reported a good time.

Ask Mr. P.

Earl Barber, third son of Mr. and
Mrs. C. S. Barber, left last Wednes-
day to join the Navy. Good luck to
Earl.

L. A. Gardner, has returned from a
week's visit in Detroit.

Leo and J. Mallat of Waters were
in town Saturday evening calling on
Miss Bigham and Miss Torbils.

Has everyone heard of the dis-
covery Max Tobin made last week?

Sam Courney Jr. is in town this
week.

Mrs. Saperston, of Alba visited her
sister, Mrs. Abraham this week.

Earl and Vern Wallace of Detroit,
will visit their mother Mrs. C. R. Wal-
ace, during the holidays.

The teachers expect to leave Fri-
day night for their homes, to spend
the holidays.

James Kalahar, was a Grayling
caller, Monday.

Mrs. D. McDermid and Mrs. Geo.
Burke were Grayling callers Satur-
day.

Mrs. H. Seiwel, of Gaylord, was a
caller here this week.

Mrs. B. J. Callahan, and son Ted,
made a business trip to Gaylord Mon-
day.

Miss Paris made a business trip to
Grayling Tuesday.

FOR QUICK RESULTS USE OUR
WANT COLUMN—The Cost Is Small.

Ladies' National League Field An- nual Election.

Thursday evening, Dec. 6, the
Ladies' National League held their
annual election of officers, and the
following were appointed to fill the
various offices for the ensuing year:

President—Mrs. Nellie Corwin.

1st Vice president—Mrs. Edna
Brown.

2nd Vice president—Mrs. C. P.
Johnson.

Secretary—Mrs. Prudence Marshall.

Treasurer—Mrs. Agnes Havens.

Chaplain—Mrs. Myrtle Corwin.

Marshall—Mrs. Emma Knibbs.

Asst. Marshall—Mrs. Lizzie Serven.

Sentinel—Mrs. Lura Colten.

Picket—Mrs. Della Isenhauer.

Methodist Episcopal Church Notes.

Services are held in the "Danebod"
every Sunday. Morning service at
0:30 o'clock. Evening at 7:00 o'clock.

Notice To Our Subscribers.

Because of business reasons it is
either necessary to increase the sub-
scription rate to the *Avalanche* or to
reduce the size and quality or take some
other action to insure its financial
success.

Neither of the first two plans appeal
to us, and therefore for the present
we have decided that beginning Janu-
ary 1, every subscription must be paid
in advance. This will eliminate col-
lection expenses and avoid losses that
sometimes occur. January 1, all sub-
scriptions not paid in advance will be
discontinued. In the future ample
notice will be given before your sub-
scription expires.

Please observe the date on your
address and if your subscription is
about to expire, or has expired, renew
at once so as not to miss any numbers.
One thing we assure is that the qual-
ity of the *Avalanche* will remain the
same or improve.

O. P. SCHUMANN,
Publisher.

NEW DELIVERY SCHEDULE

To save time and expense it becomes necessary to
schedule a time for delivering, as follows:

Round trip starts.....	7:00 o'clock a. m.
North Side.....	8:30 " "
South Side.....	9:30 " "
North Side, last trip.....	10:30 " "

AFTERNOON AS FOLLOWS:

North Side.....	2:30 o'clock p. m.
South Side.....	3:30 " "
North Side, last trip.....	4:30 " "

No deliveries made between these hours

To take effect January 1, 1918.

GAME & BURROWS

Fresh, Salt and Smoked Meats

Phone 126

Grayling, Mich.

A RED CROSS CHRISTMAS



LET YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS BE RED CROSS MEMBERSHIPS THIS YEAR.

"It was a happy thought that suggested the idea of combining the spirit of the Red Cross with that of Christmas. Both involve service and sacrifice, helpfulness and humanity. Let us make this a Red Cross Christmas."

—Governor Sleeper's Proclamation.

RED CROSS WORK SAVES SOLDIERS FOR NEXT SPRING

MEN AT FRONT ARE HEARTENED BECAUSE THEIR FAMILIES ARE CARED FOR.

GENERAL PERSHING CO-OPERATES

American Leader and Gen. Pershing Aid in Relieving Distress, Thereby Keeping Up the Morale of the Army.

That the work which the Red Cross is doing in France to alleviate suffering among the families of Frenchmen who are fighting at the front represents a saving of 1,500,000 men is the opinion of William Allen White, noted writer and owner of the Emporia (Kan.) Gazette, who has just returned from France.

"It is not probable that our army in France will get into the fighting to any large extent until next spring. The real war work that should interest the people of America this winter is of an economic rather than of a military character. It will be carried on by the Red Cross in France, its purpose being to relieve needy conditions in the homes of French soldiers who are in winter quarters in the trenches at the front.

Comfort Women and Children.

"It is felt by the military officers of both nations that nothing could do more to keep up the morale of the French soldiers during the coming winter than to bring comfort to women and children at home. The soldier's knowledge that his family is being well cared for will take a great load off his mind and hearten him to stand up against privation which otherwise might break his spirit and render him of no physical use.

"Maj. Grayson, M. P. Murphy of the Red Cross, Gen. Pershing and Gen. Pershing of France are working in unison to perfect the plans for the relief of families of soldiers, the military commanders believing that it will be of the greatest benefit to both armies. It should be kept in mind that every soldier who is saved this winter means the saving of an American boy when the big drive begins next spring. Some American boys will have to take the place of every Frenchman who is killed or who breaks down under the strain.

"This particular relief work means, therefore, that French soldiers will be saved for work in the spring and American lives will be conserved at the same time.

CHRISTMAS RED CROSS MEMBERSHIP PLAN COMPLETE

State Organization Ready for Big Campaign—Goal 750,000 By Christmas Eve.

Detroit—The machinery is all being assembled and oiled, and the final touches are being given to the campaign plans for the big "Christmas Drive" of the Red Cross in Michigan. Beginning official Monday morning, December 17, the entire strength of the state organization is to be turned loose on the citizenship of the commonwealth with a membership for the Red Cross of 750,000 people.

"And we're going to win," says Sidney T. Miller, Chairman of the Michigan Red Cross. We simply must not fail, and with the careful preparations made for an enthusiastic, intensive campaign, I do not see how we can do other than gain success. The responses we have had thus far to our appeal for assistance has been glorious; Michigan people are as intent on going 'over the top' in this campaign as they have been in every other they have participated in.

"The plans for the drive are comprehensive. We hope that every city in the state will have an organization for every one of its blocks of residence and business places. Tons of publicity literature, designed to educate every last person in the state as to the purposes of the drive, are going out daily. Posters, cards, service flags—everything is ready and awaiting only the word to go. Churches and schools are taking up the work in a most satisfactory manner. Nothing less than three-quarters of a million members in Michigan will satisfy the state organization, and I'm confident we will have gained our goal when the campaign closes on Christmas Eve."



Lighting the Candles behind the Red Cross on Christmas Eve.

Doing Nicely at M. A. C.

East Lansing, Mich. Dec. 11, 1917.

Mr. Rasmus Hanson, Grayling, Mich. Dear Mr. Hanson: Just finished studying for tonight, so I will write you a letter and tell you about school. Have been so busy for the last few weeks that I haven't written to anyone.

Last week I was initiated into the Trimora Literary Society. The members of this society are all engineers. For initiation they gave me several difficult engineering problems to solve. They gave me those problems to solve, so they could determine how much I knew about engineering. I sat up late nights until I found a solution for them and I made good. When I handed in my problems and answers, they marked them 100% and believe me I was glad. There were four other boys also given problems to solve and they did equally as well. There are several other very good societies here at College; I chose the Trimora because they deal with engineering work mostly.

My work at school is going very good with me. Next week the term closes, and as final examinations come in that week, I'm kept busy reviewing the term's work. I feel confident that I will get through in everything.

Winter, I think has set in for good down here. There is lots of snow and the thermometer registers zero weather.

School closes Friday noon, Dec. 21. Respectfully yours, Axel J. Peterson.

The Printer's Night Out

A sale bill bearing the signature of "Will Quit Work" has been going the rounds of the press and purports to be a Missouri auction sale, giving evidence of what queer combinations can be made by a printer who is suffering from the effects of a night out and badly pines the galley.

The bill announcing the sale includes the following list:

Twenty-five good cows, broke to work; 41 head of cultivators, coming in soon; 10 head of shoveling boards, with scoops by side; 8 piano mares; 120 rods canvas belting, better than new; De Laval cow, with ice-cream attachment; McCormick binder, in foal; Poland China bobsled, due to farrow in April; 14 head of chickens, with grassed attachment, in good working order; 2 J. I. C. riding heifers, good as new; spraying outfit, can be ridden or driven by children; 15 billy goats, 70 bushels capacity, with spraying nozzle and other attachments; many other articles too numerous to mention, which I expect to get at night between now and date of sale.

How Prevent Croup.

In a child that is subject attacks of croup, the first indication of the disease is hoarseness. Give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as soon as the child becomes hoarse and the attack may be warded off and all danger and anxiety avoided.

The Girl He Left Behind. We used to think her frivolous, you know parrots are a little quick to see the faults and petty flaws that mar. The girl their son is fond of and may choose to make his wife. A little over-zealous of the one who'd share his life. But the girl he left behind him when he bravely marched away has blossomed into beauty that we see and need today.

She was with us at the depot and we turned our backs awhile. Add her eyes were sad and misty though she tried her best to smile. Then she put her arm 'round mother and it seemed to me as though they just grew to love each other for they shared a common woe. Now she often comes to see us, and it seems to me we are glad. A heap of real comfort in the girl he left behind.

"She's so sensible and gentle," mother said last night to me. "The kind of girl I've often wished and prayed his wife to be. And I like to have her near us, for she understands my sighs. And I see my brave boy smiling when I look into her eyes." Now the presence of his sweetheart seems to fill our home with joy. She's no longer young and flighty—she's the girl who loves our boy.

FRANK LACEY.

Bat. D, 121st H. F. D.

Crawford County Boys in Service.

Following are the names and addresses of some of our Crawford County boys now in the National army and other departments.

At Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Mich.: Walter Barton, Co. B, 310th Engineers, Barracks 934.

Lee Schmalz, Co. I, 337th Inf. William Harger, Co. I, 337th Inf. Samuel Cantrell, Co. I, 337th Inf. Loren Moon, Co. I, 337th Inf. Judson McCormick, Co. I, 337th Inf. William Pagel, Co. I, 337th Inf. Charles A. Hawley, Co. I, 337th Inf. John Middleton, Co. G, 337th Inf. Lemuel Corning, Co. G, 337th Inf. Daniel C. Babbitt, Co. G, 337th Inf. Daniel H. Williams, Co. G, 337th Inf. John D. Lammiman, Co. G, 337th Inf.

Ford Middleton, Co. I, 337th Inf. Robert Roblin, Co. G, 337th Inf. Floyd Taylor, Co. G, 337th Inf. Felix Pakysta, Co. G, 337th Inf. Ransom Burgess, Barracks 43, Reg. 337.

A. C. McIntyre, Co. I, 337th Inf.

At Camp MacArthur, Waco, Texas: Corp. Harry Hemmingson, Co. H, 125th U. S. Inf.

Corp. Will Laurent, Co. H, 125th U. S. Inf.

Leo Jorgenson, Battery F, 119th Reg. U. S. F. A.

Arthur Carrievau, Field Hospital, No. 123, 32nd Division.

Louis Bennett, Co. B, 120th Machine Gun Battalion.

Shirlaw Dyer, Battery F, 119th Reg. U. S. F. A.

Roy Cruickshank, 2nd Battalion, Headquarters Detachment.

Frank P. Babbitt, Co. H, 125th Inf.

Clyde Hum, Watertown Arsenal, Massachusetts, Det. Enlisted Ordnance Corps National Army.

Carl G. Johnson, U. S. S. President Grant, New York City.

Hardin C. Sweeney, 1st. Lieut. 43rd Inf., Camp Pike, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Direct News From Our Soldiers Overseas.

Harriman & Company take pleasure in announcing that the courtesies of the Statistical division of the Adjutant General's Office, War Department, Washington, D. C., have been extended to them and that, on request they will at any time make inquiries without expense over their private wire to their Washington offices regarding the condition or fate of sick or wounded soldiers from Michigan in active service overseas. This does not include men in the Navy or Marine Corps. No information will be furnished regarding the movement of troops or the location of any particular unit or organization. It is requested that all applications for information be made at Harriman & Company's Detroit offices in person or by letter, not by telephone.

FIRST "WAR CHRISTMAS"

It is our first Christmas in the War.

Millions of our boys are away from their homes, in camps, on the sea, and in the trenches.

Let your Red Cross banner wave from holly wreath and Christmas green to show that you and yours are enlisted in its service.

Light the Red Cross Christmas candle and let its rays light up the folds of the emblem of mercy; and this:

Blind in inseparable union the Christmas spirit of service and the Red Cross mission of humanity.

The Red Cross has 5,000,000 Members. It needs 15,000,000 Members. That means 10,000,000 new Members.

Tie Makers

WANTED

INQUIRE OF

J. H. GROVER

Riverview



With Our Soldier Boys At the Various Camps

Letter From Arthur McIntyre. Wednesday Morning, Camp Custer.

Dear Editor:—

Each week when the Avalanche reaches us we immediately read it from first to last pages and every item is of great interest. The letters from the boys at Waco and elsewhere are especially interesting as we do not know when we may be among those sent to one of those camps. In the last few days several of the newer men have gone to Georgia.

We are experiencing some fine winter weather, the thermometer registering ten below last Sunday morning. Our company was on guard last Saturday and Sunday and a number of the men were reported at the hospital with frozen ears and hands. When one is walking fast with a rifle it is rather hard to keep hands and ears warm, unless one has mittens and a helmet.

There were about a dozen scarfs in the store room but these did not go all the way around, and those not having any covering for the ears found that they were frozen.

A good many of the fellows have received sweaters from friends, (Mrs. C. P. Michelson of Mason, Mich. sent me one and it sure is fine) and those that had no sweaters were given one. Each company received about sixty sent out by the Red Cross. The people back home, I don't believe, know how these are appreciated, but they are prized even more than one might think.

At present the company is drilling in barracks. Very little is done outside the school of the soldier and manual of arms. There is a rumor out to the effect that this division will move by February, 1st, or sooner, because the weather is prohibitive of drill.

The new men have their uniforms now and the change it makes in some is remarkable.

We have a banjo, violin and guitar in our barracks now and each night we have a dance or some of the fellows sing or play, and we have some very credible performers. It is surprising to see the change it makes in the men when someone starts to play; some of the men are quite blue and have that far-away look which is soon lost when the music starts.

Was over to see Robert Roblin and the rest of the fellows last night but they were to a lecture. Pat O'Reagan was sent to Texas yesterday with a bunch from the depot brigade.

I am going to automatic rifle school now. Have been for the past month and it's quite funny as we go to school in a little white country school house where not many months ago the "young ones" learned their A. B. C's. Yesterday we were out map making and this morning we go on the range. It is very interesting and at the end

of the course those passing the "exam" will be instructors.

Passes of four days will be issued at Christmas but not all of us get one, only 50% being allowed to go and 25% the first four days and 25% the last four days the time being the 22th to the 30th.

Very Sincerely,

A. C. McIntyre, Co. I, 337 Inf., Camp Custer, Mich.

Letter From Leo Jorgenson

Camp MacArthur, Dec. 9, 1917.

Mr. Editor,

Dear Sir:—I have not seen any letters in your paper from the boys that are at Camp Custer, so I thought I would drop you a few lines.

Everything is fine at Camp MacArthur we go out mounted every 3rd half day, as we had not enough horses we used some of the other batteries' horses and they use some of ours. Last Friday when we were out mounted, the wind was blowing awfully; on the way home we had the wind in our faces; it was something fierce.

That night we got orders to put all the fires out of our tents as there was going to be a windstorm. Some of the boys went to the Y. M. C. A. to keep warm, and some went to bed.

Next morning it was sure cold, everybody had on their overcoats, and we drilled with them on, so you can imagine how cold it was.

We had a good Thanksgiving dinner: turkey, mashed and sweet potatoes, cake, two kinds of pie, coffee, lemonade, three kinds of fruit and a few more things that goes to make a good dinner. We only had two meals that day, that was enough.

We have been getting lots of new horses in our Regiment. We have at present 157 in our Battery and expect to get a few more. That will mean work for us fellows.

I see in your paper where another bunch of boys left for Camp Custer; I hope they had as good a time as we did when we left. And that the people of Crawford Co. are doing their part for the Y. M. C. A.

We'll must close as it is getting near bed time.

Yours Truly,

Leo Jorgenson, Bat. F, 119th F. A. Camp MacArthur, Waco, Texas.

Lieutenant Hardin Sweeney at Camp Pike.

Camp Pike, Arkansas, December, 2, 1917.

Dear Mother and all:—

The dull routine proceeds we are still doing duty as guard and fatigue squads. Little Rock does not improve, instead it gets worse with age. Margaret's candy was very nice. It

is always fresh and nice upon arrival. The rains of the night I could not, which, were all dried out, so was only a waste.

How are the people of Grayling standing the war and draft? The paper is always optimistic. Everywhere I have been lately seems to possess a spirit of let's win.

I have received several letters from the boys; it seems that he has been under German fire several times. In fact I know we had troops in the trenches before the papers ever mentioned the fact.

Thanksgiving was very tame for me. I was under the weather slightly and did not possess very exuberant spirits.

The company is still in quarantine, scarlet fever and measles. It really does not amount to very much.

There is not very much news. But this will let you know I am alive and well.

Your Son, Hardin.

Camp Pike, Ark. Dec. 13, 1917.

Dear mother and all:—

Your letter received some few days ago. Have had plenty of time to answer but must have had a chronic case of laziness as I have hardly done anything except what was absolutely necessary.

The weather here is nearly as cold as at home. The sunny south has turned cold. The papers to-day have stated that the Arkansas river was frozen over for the first time in twelve years.

The regiment continues to do guard duty. It is awful cold to walk post but when I made a midnight inspection the other evening every sentry was a walking post. That shows the moral of the troops is very good.

It is very near the holidays now. Everybody is preparing for them. I intended to put in for a leave in order to come home, but so many others tried that it would leave the regiment short of officers so decided to wait until a more favorable time.

I know some very fine people in Little Rock and they have invited me to Xmas dinner so the Holidays will not be so lonesome.

Drill and training has dropped considerably due to excessive guard duty. So everybody finds an excessive amount of time on their hands. Look for a letter soon.

Your son and brother, Hardin.

P. S.—Be sure and address, 43rd Inf. Camp Pike.

Announcement.

Thomas Cassidy of the Model Bakery announces that a pretty calendar will be given away Saturday of this week, Dec. 22, to each customer.

Our First Christmas in Grayling

This Christmas season finds us nicely located in a fine store building, in the New Hotel block, where we are enabled to extend to our customers a service in Shoes for ladies and gentlemen and Gents' Furnishing Goods that is superior to any in Crawford county.

It gives us much pleasure and pride in our new establishment, when we know that you will at once feel at home here and find that your confidence is growing with each visit. We want to do everything we can to make this your store and so conduct it as to meet your hearty approval. We intend to carry in stock just such quality of merchandise as you desire, and then when you come into our store we want you to have our most careful attention and service.

And we want this Christmas time to be one of good cheer, and through the veil of sorrow that extends from the battle fields of France to the many homes in our fair land, may soon the sunshine of Peace and Happiness be once more beaming. While we are contributing a word of cheer to our boys in service, let us also add a few words of cheer for the folks at home. We wish you and yours the best that the Yuletide of 1917 may offer.

A Few Gift Suggestions

Christmas is next Tuesday and you will want to remember the folks at home with good, serviceable gifts, and we wish to suggest our lines of

Beautiful Tiles Dress Shirts Silk Shirts
Gloves and Mittens Men's Handkerchiefs Comfortable Slippers
Dress and every day Shoes Elegant and serviceable Hand Bags,
Grips and Trunks Queen Quality Shoes; the most elegant
shoes on the market. Many other lines not here mentioned

Max Landsberg

Patronize the Merchants that Advertise, and tell them you saw their ad in the Avalanche—it identifies you.

Useful Presents

Articles that have a lasting value and extend the joys of Xmas day for the many days that follow. We will help you make every nickle count.

Fountain Pens

The celebrated Schaffer and other well known makes. \$1.00 to \$5.00.

Cameras and Photo Supplies

A camera is a necessary article in every home. It is a history recorder that is reliable and accurate. Buy at least one camera for the home this Xmas.

Books and Magazines

The latest fiction and current publications. Books always make good presents. Read "Over the Top" by Empey. The most popular book of the year.

Stationery

We never had so fine a line of stationery in our store. It is handsome and you will want some. Come soon.

An Elegant Line of Xmas Greeting Cards and Xmas Seals

Crepe and Tissue Papers in all shades

Candy



Christmas is not complete without candy. We offer almost every desirable quality.

Thermos Bottles

All sizes and prices, ranging from \$1.50 to \$5.00 each.

White Ivory Articles

These are handsome and most useful articles. Mirrors, Trays, Combs, Brushes, Buffers, Manicures, Picture Frames and Novelties.

Plain and Safety Razors

All the leading makes and designs. Prices from \$1.00 to \$5.00.

Soda Fountain

Our Soda Fountain dispenses many delicious dishes. Try our ice cream.

A. M. LEWIS

Your Druggist Phone 18

Local News

GRAYLING, THURSDAY, DEC. 20

Make it a Conkila pea for Xmas. Highway has them.

Mrs. Peter Brown is recovering from an acute attack of indigestion.

Mrs. Guy Pringle returned Monday from a ten day's visit in Bay City and Detroit.

We have a special sale on ladies' and children's hats. Call in and see us. The Hat Shop.

Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Russell of Newberry, visited their son, Wm. E. Russell and wife, first of the week.

Miss Margaret Joseph arrived Monday from her school duties at Milwaukee, to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Joseph.

The Christmas season is again here—and the store windows of the various merchants have on their holiday array. Our enterprising merchants are ready to serve the public in their Christmas needs, and almost all have advertisements in this issue making a number of suggestions, especially to the late shopper. Buy at home, and buy early.

Miss Eureka Deckrow and Mr. John Stephan Jr., were united in marriage Friday evening of last week by Rev. Aaron Mitchell. The bride is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Deckrow, and Mr. Stephan is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Stephan Sr., who reside down the AnSable. The young couple expect to make their home in Grayling.

To close the very eventful Masonic year of 1917, Grayling Lodge No. 356 has arranged a "Past Master's Night" for Thursday evening, Dec. 20th, at 7:30 o'clock sharp. Past Masters will be in full charge of the Lodge, two candidates, work third degree; presentation Life membership certificate; presentation of Past Master's apron; twelve Past masters have agreed to take part; from labor to refreshment after the work is completed. All Masons are requested to be present.

Constable Mike Brenner had a narrow escape last night when a stranger whom he was taking to the county jail, suddenly jerked away from him and deliberately fired two shots at him, one bullet striking the officer in the neck just below the right chin and coming out just back of the place it entered. The wound is not a serious one, and after having it dressed by a local surgeon, Mr. Brenner continued on the beat for the remainder of the night. Had it not been for the prompt action of the officer in knocking his assailant down with his club, no doubt there would have been a fatal casualty to report today. The man was landed in jail and will have to answer to a serious charge. He was in town with an extra railroad crew, and yesterday attempted to pass a forged check. Mr. Brenner considers himself fortunate for had the bullet gone a half inch further to the left it would have hit a vital spot.



Only three more actual shopping days to do your Christmas gift buying, and this practical gift store still offers you unlimited selections in Holiday goods.

GLOVES

A very appropriate present for anyone.

Men's fine dress gloves \$1.25 to \$3.00.

Wool gloves 35c to 75c.

Auto gloves \$1.75 to \$6.00.

Ladies' dress gloves in washable kid, lined silk, cashmere and wool.

A complete line of children's wool mitts at 25c.



HOSIERY

in silk, wool and cotton.

Men's at 15c to 50c.

Ladies' hose at 25c to \$2.00. A line worth seeing, in silk, in black, white and colors.

Children's and infants' stockings in wool or fleeced, at lowest prices.



Very Suitable and Acceptable Gifts for Men

Caps 50c to \$3.50

Comfy Slippers 75c to 2.00

Ties 25c to 1.50

Mufflers 75c to 3.50

Suspenders and Garter Sets 50c

Bath Robes \$4.00 to 6.00

Flannel Gowns 75c to 1.50

Flannel Pajamas \$1.50

Dress Shirts 75c to 2.00

Silk Shirts \$3.50

Sweaters \$1.00 to 10.00

Handkerchiefs 10c to 50c

Flannel Shirts \$1.00 to 3.50

Mackinaws, Overcoats, Suits, Hats, Suit Cases and Bags



Don't Forget the Little Ones

A great variety of gifts to choose from. Knit Booties, Toques, Bonnets, Leggings, Sweaters, Bath Robes. Fancy Ribbons, Mitts, Underwear, Gowns, Felt Slippers, Girls' Coats and Dresses, Boys' Mackinaws and Caps. The best line of Shoes in the city.



The Gifts for Women

are numerous and very pretty

Our showing of Holiday Handkerchiefs is without doubt the largest in the city, ranging from 5c to 50c. Some are packed three and six in a box.

Very pretty Brassieres and Camisoles in silk and net, 50c to 2.50

Comfy Slippers for house or boudoir, \$1.25 to 1.75

Boudoir Caps 25c to 2.00

A beautiful line of Holiday Waists in silk and Georgette crepe

Bath Towels, Linen Towels

Bags and Purses, Powder Puffs

Pretty new Collars and Ties

Flannel Gowns, Muslin Underwear, Blankets and Bed Spreads

Fancy Aprons 25c to \$1.00

Any article purchased at this store that is not satisfactory can be exchanged any time up to January 1, 1918. We insist on you being satisfied.

Grayling Mercantile Co.

NEW IDEA PATTERNS

"THE QUALITY STORE"

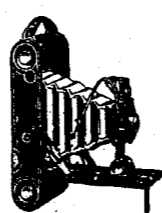
PHONE 1251

The CHRISTMAS SEASON of 1917



You must remember the kiddies, for what is childhood without toys? They are necessary to every growing child. They develop imagination and brain power and besides bring joy and entertainment. Yes, toys are a necessity, and that is the reason we have purchased heavily of this line.

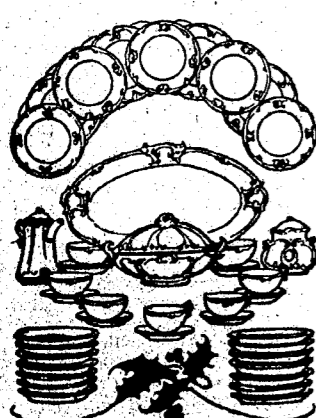
CAMERAS



Eastman Cameras and Kodaks and photo supplies. The finest cameras made.

FURNITURE

This is always an excellent gift—remember the home with a few choice pieces. We have a large stock in plain, leather and upholstered chairs and rockers. Dining and living room furniture, bedroom suits, and in fact nearly anything you may want in stock.



Chinaware

We take special pride in our line of Chinaware. Beautiful pieces and complete sets are awaiting your choice. Several open sets that may be duplicated in single pieces.

Books

The latest and best in good stories.

Toilet and Manicure Sets

For men and women. And shaving sets for the men.

Shaving Sets

The above are but a few of the hundreds of things we have to offer you this year and it will be necessary for you to call and see our stock in order to appreciate it.

Sorenson Bros.

The Home of Dependable Furniture
Grayling, Mich.

Local News

Merry Christmas to all our readers. Buy a war certificate at Post offices or banks.

Mrs. A. Hermann is visiting friends at their former home in Onoway.

Mrs. Martha Hill is quite ill at her home with an attack of pleurisy.

Mrs. Claude Keyport and daughter Jane, went to Bay City Monday, for a few days.

Mrs. J. J. Love was called to Manistee yesterday by the serious illness of a sister.

J. W. Overton, of Flint, formerly of this place, was in the city on business the first of the week.

Mrs. Olaf Michelson returned home from Detroit, Monday, after having spent a few days in that city.

Round Oak heating stoves and Round Oak Chief ranges. 11-14 F. R. Deckrow.

Prices on all hats are being reduced at The Hat Shop. A special line of children's hats, priced at \$1.00 each.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Tromble leaves for Royal Oak, Saturday, to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bradley.

Miss Maude Tetu came home from Bay City yesterday morning, to spend the holidays with her mother and other relatives.

Fred Narrin has disposed of his general store business in Sigma and the family is moving to Lansing.

H. C. Schmidt, who has been confined to his home for the past five weeks with illness, is able to be up and around his home.

Skating rink open week days till 10 o'clock p. m.; Sundays from 2:00 to 6:30 p. m. Will be closed Christmas eve and all day Christmas.

Mrs. Wilfred Cohen of Detroit arrived in the city Tuesday to spend the holidays visiting her mother Mrs. Albert Kraus and other relatives.

There will be a Christmas tree Friday afternoon Dec. 21 at 1:00 o'clock at the South side school, to which parents and friends are cordially invited.

War savings certificates and thrift stamps should appeal to every person and affords a fine opportunity for the boys and girls to save money and at the same time help Uncle Sam. Secure them at post office or banks.

Wilfred Laurent, better known among his Grayling friends as "Dago," who was stationed at Camp Custer, was sent Wednesday of last week to Georgia with some troops. They are sent there to assist in the construction of aeroplanes.

The Charity ball, given under the auspices of the Mercy Hospital Aid society Wednesday evening of last week, for the benefit of Grayling Mercy Hospital was a splendid success. There was a large crowd present, and the affair netted the society about \$85.00.

RED CROSS NOTES

If you are a member of the Red Cross try to secure two new members before Christmas. Michigan wants 750,000. Every man's mite is mighty when he gives it to the Red Cross. Your dollar may buy the anesthetic and the surgical dressings that will save a soldier's life.

Join now, at the bank of Grayling, the bank of Frederic, or send your application to Mrs. O. N. Michelson, Grayling.

Put your service flag in the window on Christmas eve at 7 o'clock. Put a light behind it. Be careful of fire.

Proceeds of Saturday tea and sale of articles by the Garmant girls club amounted to \$28.00. The school girls and young women of our community are doing splendid work for the county chapter.

The Boy scouts are busy today distributing service flags. Every family having a number is entitled to one with a small cross for each additional member. If you do not receive one, call Mr. Zalesman.

Crawford county's total membership should be 900, or 20% of its population. Help us "over the top". Join now.

New line of heating stoves just arrived. Prices right. Open evenings. F. R. Deckrow. 12-20-17

You Have Tried The Rest Now Try The Best.

Eat your Christmas dinner at the Allan Cafe. A fine dinner will be prepared suitable for the occasion, quick service, accommodating waiters and reasonable prices. ALLAN'S CAFE

Round Oak heating stoves and Round Oak Chief ranges. 11-14 F. R. Deckrow.

All Rips Sewed Free of Charge

With orders for Half Soles

The largest and finest selection of

Shoe Lacings

Polishes and

Dressings...

of any store in Grayling.

Also ARCH SUPPORTS

and HEEL CUSHIONS.

Rapid Shoe Repair Shop

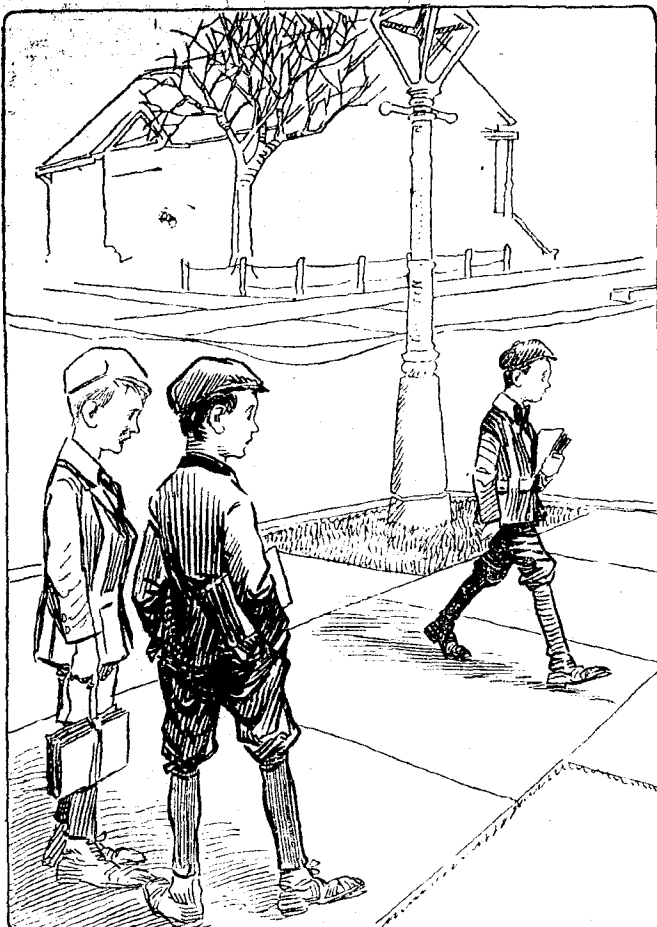
E. J. OLSON, Prop'r.

Next Door to Central Drug Store

ORDER OF THE IN-OR-INS

Penrod and Sam Collaborate
in Founding a Secret Society By BOOTH TARKINGTON

(Copyright, 1917, Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.)



There Was Something Different and Spiritual About George.

George Bassett was a boy set apart. Not only that; George knew that he was a boy set apart. He would think about it for ten or twenty minutes at a time, and he could not look at himself in a mirror and remain wholly without emotion. What that emotion was, he would have been unable to put into words, but it helped him to understand that there was a certain noble something about him which other boys did not possess.

George's mother had been the first to discover that George was a boy set apart. In fact, George did not know it until one day, when he happened to overhear his mother telling his aunts about it. True, he had always understood that he was the best boy in town and intended to be a minister when he grew up, but he had never before comprehended the full extent of his sanctity, and, from that fraught moment onward, he had an almost mystical sense of his set-apartness.

Penrod Schofield and Sam Williams and the other boys of the neighborhood all were conscious that there was something different and spiritual about George, and, though this consciousness of theirs may have been a little obscure, it was none the less actual. That is to say, they knew that George Bassett was a boy set apart, but they did not know that they knew it. George's air and manner at all times demonstrated to them that the thing was so, and, moreover, their mothers absorbed an appreciation of George's wonderfulness from the very fount of it, for Mrs. Bassett's conversation was of little else. Thus, the radiance of his character became the topic of envious parental comment during moments of strained patience in many homes, so that altogether the most remarkable fact to be stated of George Bassett is that he escaped the consequences as long as he did.

Strange as it may seem, no actual violence was done him except upon the incidental occasion of a tar fight, into which he was drawn by an obvious eccentricity on the part of destiny. Naturally, he was not popular with his comrades; in all games he was pushed aside, and disregarded, being invariably the tall-ender in every pastime in which leaders "chose sides," his counsels were slighted as worse than weightless, and all his intentions were of little else. Still, considering the circumstances fairly and thoughtfully, it is difficult to deny that his boy companions showed creditable moderation in their treatment of him. That is, they were moderate up to a certain date, and even then they did not directly attack him—there was nothing cold-blooded about it at all. The thing was forced upon them, and though they all felt pleased and uplifted—while it was happening—they did not understand precisely why. Nothing could more clearly prove their innocence of heart than this very ignorance, and yet none of the grown people who later felt themselves concerned in the matter was able to look at it in that light. Now, here was a characteristic working of those reactions which produce what is sometimes called "the injustice of life," because the grown people were responsible for the whole affair, and were really the guilty parties. It was from grown people that George Bassett learned that he was a boy set apart, and the effect upon him was what alienated his friends. Then these alienated friends were brought by odious comparisons on the part of grown people to a condition of mind wherein they suffered dumb annoyance, like a low fever, whenever they heard George's name mentioned, while association with his actual person became every day more and more irritating. And yet, having laid this fuse and having kept it constantly burning, the grown people expected nothing to happen to George.

had somehow obtained a vandy plano box and a quantity of lumber, and, summoning Penrod Schofield and the colored brother, Herman and Verman, he expounded to them his building plans and offered them shares and benefits in the institution he purposed to found. Acceptance was enthusiastic; straightaway the assembly became a union of carpenters all of one mind, and ten days saw the shack not completed but comprehensible. Anybody could tell, by that time, that it was intended for a shack.

There was a door on leather hinges; it drooped, perhaps, but it was a door. There was a window—not a glass one, but, at least, it could be "looked out of," as Sam said. There was a chimney made of stovepipe, though that was merely decorative, because the cooking was done out of doors in an underground "furnace" which the boys excavated. There were pictures pasted on the interior walls, and, hanging from a nail, there was a crayon portrait of Sam's grandfather, which he had brought down from the attic quietly, though, as he said, it "wasn't any use on earth up there." There were two lounge chairs from Penrod's attic, and along one wall ran a low and feeble structure intended to serve as a bench or divan. This would come in handy, Sam said, if any of the party "had to lay down or anything," and at a pinch (such as a meeting of the association) it would serve to seat all the members in a row.

For, coincidentally with the development of the shack, the builders became something more than partners. Later, no one could remember who first suggested the founding of a secret order or society, as a measure of exclusiveness and to keep the shack sacred to members only, but it was an idea that presently began to be more absorbing and satisfactory than even the shack itself. The outward manifestations of it might have been observed in the increased solemnity and preoccupation of the Caucasian members and in a few ceremonial observances exposed to the public eye. As an instance of these latter, Mrs. Williams, happening to glance from a forward window, about four o'clock one afternoon, found her attention arrested by what seemed to be a flag-raising before the door of the shack. Sam and Herman and Verman stood in attitudes of rigid attention, shoulder to shoulder, while Penrod Schofield, facing them, was apparently delivering some sort of exhortation which he read from a scribbled sheet of foolscap. Concluding this, he lifted from the ground a long, thin, somewhat warped, clothes-prop, from one end of which hung a whitish flag, or pennon, bearing an inscription. Sam and Herman and Verman lifted their right hands, while Penrod placed the other end of the clothes-prop in a hole in the ground, with the pennon fluttering high above the shack. He then raised his own right hand, and the four boys repeated something in concert. It was inaudible to Mrs. Williams, but she was able to make out the inscription upon the pennon. It consisted of the peculiar phrase, "In-Or-In," done in black paint upon a muslin ground, and consequently securing to be in need of a blotter.

It occurred to her mind, later that evening, when she happened to find herself alone with Sam in the library, and, in merest idle curiosity, she asked:

"Sam, what does 'In-Or-In' mean?"

Sam, bending over an arithmetic, uncreased his brow till it became of a blank and marble smoothness.

"M'm?"

"What are those words on your flag?"

Sam gave her a long, cold, mystic look, rose to his feet, and left the room with emphasis and dignity. For some time she was puzzled. But Sam

upon some brotherhoods, so she was able to comprehend Sam's silent withdrawal, and, instead of summoning him back for further questions, she waited until he was out of hearing and then began to laugh.

Sam's action was in obedience to one of the rules adopted, at his own suggestion, as a law of the order. Penrod advocated it warmly. From Margaret he had heard accounts of her friends in college and thus had learned much that ought to be done. On the other hand, Herman subscribed to it with reluctance, expressing a decided opinion that if he and Verman were questioned upon the matter at home and adopted the line of conduct required by the new rule, it would be well for them to depart not only from the room in which the questioning took place but from the house, and hurriedly at that. "An' stay away!" he concluded.

Verman, being tongue-tied—not without advantage in this case, and surely an ideal qualification for membership—was not so apprehensive. He voted with Sam, and Penrod, carrying the day.

New rules were adopted at every meeting (though it cannot be said that all of them were practicable) for, in addition to the information possessed by Sam and Penrod, Herman and Verman had many ideas of their own, founded upon remarks overheard at home. Both their parents belonged to secret orders, their father to the Inapparent 'Nevolent lodge (so stated by Herman), and their mother to the Order of White Doves.

From these and other sources, Penrod found no difficulty in compiling material for what came to be known as the "ritual," and it was the ritual he was reading to the members when Mrs. Williams happened to observe the ceremonial raising of the emblem of the order.

The ritual contained the oath, a key to the secret language, or code (divided by Penrod for use in uncertain emergencies), and passwords for admission to the shack, also instructions for recognizing a brother member in the dark, and a rather alarming sketch of the things to be done during the initiation of a candidate.

This last was employed for the benefit of Master Roderick Magsworth Bitts, Jr., on the Saturday following his flag-raising. He presented himself in Sam's yard, not for initiation, indeed—having no previous knowledge of the Society of the In-Or-In—but for general purposes of sport and pastime. At first sight of the shack he expressed anticipations of pleasure, adding some suggestions for improving the architectural effect. Being prevented, however, from entering, and even from standing in the vicinity of the sacred building, he plaintively demanded an explanation; whereupon he was commanded to withdraw to the front yard for a time, and the members held meeting in the shack. Roddy was elected, and consented to undergo the initiation.

He was not the only new member that day. A short time after Roddy had been taken into the shack for the reading of the ritual and other ceremonies, little Maurice Levy entered the Williams' gate and strolled round to the backyard, looking for Sam. He was surprised and delighted to behold the promising shack, and, like Roddy, entertained fair hopes for the future.

The door of the shack was closed; a board covered the window, but a murmur of voices came from within. Maurice stole close and listened. Through a crack he could see the flicker of a candle-flame, and he heard the voice of Penrod Schofield:

"Roddy Bitts, do you solemnly swear?"

"Well, all right," said the voice of Roddy, somewhat breathless.

"How many fingers you see before your eyes?"

"Can't see any," Roddy returned.

"How could I, with this thing over my eyes, and laying down on my stomach, anyway?"

"Then the time has come," Penrod announced in solemn tones. "The time has come."

Whack!

Evidently a broad and flat implement was thereupon applied to Roddy.

"Ow!" complained the candidate.

"No noise!" said Penrod sternly, and added: "Roddy Bitts must now say the oath. Say exactly what I say, Roddy, and if you don't—well, you better, because you'll see! Now, say 'I solemnly swear—'"

"I solemnly swear—" said Roddy.

"To keep the secrets—"

"To keep the secrets—" Roddy repeated.

"To keep the secrets in infidelity and violate and sanctuary."

"What?" Roddy naturally inquired.

Whack!

"Ow!" cried Roddy. "That's no fair!"

"You got to say just what I say," Penrod was heard informing him.

"That's the ritual, and anyway, even if you do get it right, Verman's got to hit you every now and then, because that's part of the ritual, too. Now go on and say it. 'I solemnly swear to keep the secrets in infidelity and violate and sanctuary.'"

"I solemnly swear—" Roddy began.

But Maurice Levy was tired of being no party to such fascinating proceedings, and he began to hammer upon the door.

"Sam! Sam Williams!" he shouted.

"Lemme in there! I know lots about 'infidelity.' Lemme in!"

The door was flung open, revealing Roddy Bitts blindfolded and bound, lying face down upon the floor of the shack; but Maurice had only a fugitive glimpse of this pathetic figure before he, too, was recumbent. Four boys flung themselves indignantly upon him and bore him to earth.

"Hi!" he squealed. "What you doin' Haven't you got any sense?"

And, from within the shack, Roddy added his own protest.

"Let me up, can't you?" he cried. "I got to see what's goin' on out there, haven't I? I guess I'm not goin' to lay here all day! What you think I'm made of?"

"You hush up!" Penrod commanded.

"This is a nice business," he continued, deeply aggrieved. "What kind of a 'infidelity' do you expect this is, anyhow?"

"Well, here's Maurice Levy gone and seen part of the secrets," said Sam, in a voice of equal plaintiveness. "Yes; and I bet he was listenin' out here, too!"

"Lemme up!" begged Maurice, half stifled. "I didn't do any harm to your old secrets, did I? Anyways, I just as soon be 'infidelated' myself. I ain't afraid. So if you 'infidelate' me, what difference will it make if I did hear a little?"

Struck with this idea, which seemed reasonable, Penrod obtained silence from every one except Roddy, and it was decided to allow Maurice to rise and retire to the front yard. The brother members then withdrew, still in the shack, elected Maurice to the fellowship, and completed the initiation of Mr. Bitts. After that, Maurice was summoned and underwent the ordeal with fortitude, though the newest brother—still tingling with his own experiences—helped to make certain parts of the ritual unprecedently severe.

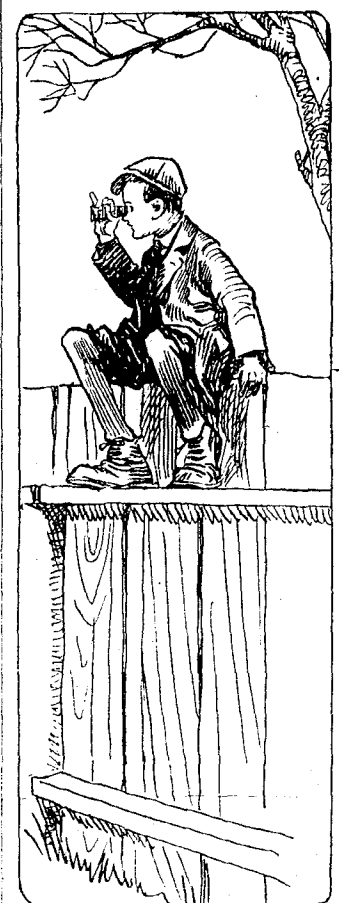
Once endowed with full membership, Maurice and Roddy accepted the obligations and privileges of the order with enthusiasm. Both interested themselves immediately in improvements for the shack, and made excursions to their homes to obtain materials. Roddy returned with a pair of lensless mother-of-pearl opera glasses, a contribution which led to the creation of a new office, called the "warner."

It was his duty to climb upon the back fence once every fifteen minutes and search the horizon for intruders or "anybody that hasn't got any bizness around here." This post proved so popular, at first, that it was found necessary to provide for rotation in office, and to shorten the interval from fifteen minutes to an indefinite but much briefer period, determined principally by argument between the incumbent and his successor.

And Maurice Levy contributed a device so pleasant and so necessary to the prevention of interruption during meetings, that Penrod and Sam wondered why they had not thought of it themselves long before. It consisted of about twenty-five feet of garden hose in fair condition. One end of it was introduced into the shack through a knothole, and the other was secured by wire, round the faucet of a hydrant in the stable. Thus, if members of the order were assailed by thirst during an important session, or in the course of an initiation, it would not be necessary for them all to leave the shack. One could go, instead, and when he had turned on the water at the hydrant, the members in the shack could drink without leaving their places. It was discovered, also, that the section of hose could be used as a speaking-tube; and though it did prove necessary to explain by shouting outside the tube

what one had said into it, still there was a general feeling that it provided another means of secrecy and an additional safeguard against intrusion. It is true that during the half hour immediately following the installation of this convenience, there was a little violence among the brothers concerning a question of policy. Sam, Roddy and Verman—Verman especially—wished to use the tube "to talk through," and Maurice, Penrod and Herman wished to use it "to drink through." As a consequence of the success of the latter party, the shack became too damp for habitation until another day, and several members, as they went home at dusk, might easily have been mistaken for survivors of some marine catastrophe.

Still, not every shack is equipped with running water, and exuberance befitting the occasion. Everybody



It Was His Duty to Climb the Back Fence and Search the Horizon for Intruders.

agreed that the afternoon had been one of the most successful and important in many weeks. The Order of the In-Or-In was doing splendidly; and yet every brother felt, in his heart, that there was one thing that could spoil it. Against that fatality, all were united to protect themselves, the shack, the ritual, the opera glasses, and the water-spouting tube. Sam spoke not only for himself but for the entire order when he declared, in speeding the last parting guest:

"Well, we got to stick to one thing or we might as well quit! George Bassett better not come pokin' around!"

"No, sir," said Penrod.

SEEKING HAPPINESS FUTILE

Experience Not Gained by Pursuit, but Comes to One Who Does Kind Deed Without Thinking of It.

Those who seek happiness never find it—a truism that has been going the rounds since philosophers began getting their words into print or upon graven tablets, observes the Dayton News. But it is well to repeat it occasionally, to humanity, that it may become so much a part of our creed and faith that the youngest among us and the oldest may realize the full meaning of the expression.

There is no greater unhappiness than that of pursuing happiness, for happiness is never overtaken by those who pursue it. Happiness comes to him who is not thinking of it; to him who is doing something for others, with never a thought of his own happiness. No man has ever yet followed a course of conduct with his own happiness in view and achieved his purpose.

Service to others—that is all there is to life that savors of happiness. The service need not be great; it is given to few persons to be of great service. And those who are of great service do not realize it—they do not start out with that in view.

To be kind and courteous and considerate of the comfort of others—that is the service which brings happiness. The man who helps a crippled old woman upon the street car is happier for doing so. The fellow who steps to wipe away the tear from the eyes of a child who bruised his hand; the woman who visits a sick neighbor to see if she can be of any use; the man who puts another in position to help himself—these little services are quite great in the realm of things that go to make for happiness. And they are possible with all of us.

Where Men Embroider.

Embroidery might be called the household industry of Japan, and it is an industry—or an art, perhaps one would better say—that has been handed down in the same families for many generations. Men, as well as women, are engaged in the work, which it done in the homes or in small shops where they have a few apprentices, usually from three to ten, and a number of skilled embroiderers. The majority of the workers are men who have been trained as apprentices to produce the finer grade of work which is demanded by the Japanese people. There are probably about 1,500 in all now engaged in this industry, according to a recent estimate. Women do embroidery at home in some parts of Japan. This is done by the piece-work system, upon which payment is based.

The contractors supply their work with the materials needed, and sometimes the wholesale tends to this directly.

TEUTONS AND REDS
SIGN 21 DAY TRUCE

HOSTILITIES SUSPENDED ON
ENTIRE FRONT FROM BLACK
SEA TO BALTIC.

IN FORCE UNTIL JANUARY 14

Agreement Stipulates Armistice is to
Continue Then Unless Seven
Days Notice is Given.

Berlin, via London.—The German war office announced Sunday:

"An armistice agreement was signed at Brest Litovsk yesterday by plenipotentiary representatives of the Russian upper army administration on the one hand and those of the upper army administration of Germany, Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey on the other hand.

"The armistice begins at noon, December 17, and remains in force until January 14, 1918. Unless seven days' notice is given it continues in force automatically. It extends to all the land, air and naval forces of the common fronts.

"According to Clause 9 of the treaty, peace negotiations are to begin immediately after the signing of an armistice."

Petrograd.—Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, declared at a meeting of the council of soldiers' and workmen's delegates Sunday that an armistice governing operations on the Russian front had been signed. He added that peace negotiations would be begun immediately.

The foreign minister announced that for a time a break in the negotiations seemed imminent because General Hoffman, the German negotiator, insisted on the right to transfer troops in small units. The German commander finally accepted the Russian formula.

"We can't and won't aid militarism in any way," M. Trosky said. "This question of transferring troops was most fundamental. I think our formula is considered by our Allies to be satisfactory."

The Russian delegates constituting the armistice committee at Brest-Litovsk have advised the Bolshevik authorities at the Smolny Institute that an agreement was reached with the Germans concerning the transfer of troops. It was to this effect:

"Both sides signing this agreement bind themselves until January 14, 1918, not to carry on operative military transfers on the front from the Baltic to the Black Sea, except such transfers as were already begun up to the moment of signing this agreement."

COAL SHIPS SEIZED IN DETROIT

Drastic Action Taken to Relieve Fuel Famine.

Detroit.—Spectacular, official action was taken by State Fuel Administrator W. K. Prudden, Saturday and Sunday to relieve the fuel famine that has been menacing Detroit and Michigan for several weeks past, and these developments resulted:

Four big lake freighters, consigned to ports on the upper lakes, and laden with approximately 24,000 tons of coal, were seized under special authorization of the national fuel administration and their cargoes diverted to industrial and domestic use in this city and state.

Mr. Prudden sent to National Fuel Administrator Harry A. Garfield, at Washington, by telegraph, recommendation that every large industrial plant in Detroit and Michigan, and throughout the nation, except those primarily engaged in making munitions of war, shut down and absolutely suspend operations, and that every theatre and all public buildings and lodge halls, not needed for the successful prosecution of the war, close their doors for one week.

He suggested that the suspension be officially decreed by National Administrator Garfield, and that it be effective for the week beginning December 24.

THREE AVIATORS DIE IN FIRE

Building at Training Camp Burns—One Was Detroit Man.

Harrisburg, Pa.—Three soldiers, members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth aero squadron, U. S. Signal corps, lost their lives when a building at Middletown, where the squadron is quartered, was destroyed by fire early Sunday.

The dead are: Private William I. Kramer, Detroit; Private E. F. Gallagher, Muncie, Pa.; Private L. Wiley, Rockford, Ill.

The three men put some tar paper in a small stove before they went to sleep and it is believed a gas was created, with combustion following.

Lapeer Man Writes From Front.

Lapeer.—In a letter to his mother Lieutenant Schuyler Kudner says that during a recent French offensive he was within three miles of the firing line and saw 16-year-old German boys being brought in as prisoners. He says they were poorly fed and had been informed that it would be impossible to get Americans into France. When they saw members of the American expeditionary force, they threw up their hands in despair. They blame capitalists for the war.

Paper Mills File Rate Complaint.

Lansing.—Complaint has been filed with the interstate commerce commission at Washington by the Michigan Paper Mills association against the Michigan Central, Lake Shore, Chicago & Northwestern, C. B. & Q., Illinois Central, Pere Marquette, and other railroads. The paper manufacturers say that recent rates to central western points are unduly favorable to competing Wisconsin mills and ask the commission to prescribe new rates to place them on equal footing.

GREATER EFFICIENCY.
REDUCED COST

Grow Grain in Western Canada,
Make Profits, and Show
Greater Patriotism.

The nation-wide cry of "More Efficiency" has now reached even the most remote agricultural sections and there is a general interest amongst the farmers to increase their products and to reduce their expenses. The need of foodstuffs is greater than the world has ever before known, and every effort is being used to meet the world's food requirements, becoming more apparent every day. While it is true that this desire is attested by a general patriotism, there is an underlying factor in this extension work to secure some of the benefits that are being offered by a ready market at maximum prices. Wide-spread attention has been given to the opportunity in this respect in Western Canada, where fortunes are being made in a few crops out of grain at present prices.

It has been found that the open, level prairie can be cultivated for wheat and other small grains at a minimum price, and during the past few years the yields have been more than satisfactory. Wheat crops of forty bushel to the acre have been common in Western Canada in the last three or four years, and with a present available price of over \$2.00 per bushel this means a return on investment and labor that cannot be duplicated elsewhere. This is made possible by the low priced lands that can be secured for grain growing. The range in price runs from \$15 to \$25 per acre, according to location and other local conditions. In this period of "more agricultural efficiency" it is apparent at a glance that the farmer on low priced but high grade lands, growing his grain at a minimum cost, is reaping a golden harvest with the highest percentage of profit.

The cultivator of high priced farm lands has a big handicap to overcome in computing his profits on a \$200 an acre farm as compared with the agriculturist reaping an acre great, if not greater return from \$25 an acre land.

It therefore becomes a question for the farmer himself to answer, whether he is doing himself and his country the best service, by devoting all his energies to working high priced land that yields no better return than land that can be secured at one-eighth the price. It is a case of getting either minimum or maximum quantity. Many have already decided on the alternative, and with their spare money invested in and now working Western Canada lands, they are allowed to speak for themselves. Apparently they are satisfied, for we learn of cases where on a \$4,000 investment, in one year they have had their money back, with a profit of from 50% to 100%. Such is one of the steps in progressiveness now being demonstrated in the effort to create greater efficiency. The Canadian Government is using every effort to bring these conditions to the attention of the agricultural world, in order to secure the necessary increased grain production so greatly needed. The farmer in Western Canada is exempt from all personal taxes. His buildings, stock and implements are not assessed; and every encouragement is given to farmers to improve and increase their farm output. Reduced railway rates are being offered to new settlers to look over the country and to size up an unprecedented opportunity in farming.—Advertisement.

The Score.

Speaking of golfing in a Washington club, Senator John W. Weeks of Massachusetts, referred to the great enthusiasm of the patrons of that game and fittingly recalled this little story: Jones was a golf fan of the dyed-in-the-wool brand. When he wasn't playing golf he was talking golf, and between these intervals he happily dreamed of punts and drives. One afternoon Jones ran across an elderly preacher from his boyhood town.

"By the way, Mr. Brown," said the golfer, after many reminiscences had been exchanged, "I must ask you about those three old maiden sisters who used to live on Main street when I was a boy. I suppose they never left Jacksonville."

"Miss Ophelia and Miss Phoebe went to Heaven about two years ago," answered the parson, with the due amount of impressiveness, "but Miss Patience is still in Jacksonville."

"I see," musingly rejoined the golfing enthusiast, "2 up and 1 to go." Philadelphia Telegraph.

Makes Shaving Easy

The wonderful skin food and "wrinkle chaser," Ust, is the finest thing to soften a wiry, stubborn beard.

A few drops rubbed into the stiffest beard before lathering softens the hair and makes shaving a pleasure. Your face feels fine after you have finished, and there isn't the least bit of smarting and tenderness. Ust not only softens the beard but makes the skin smooth and firm. After shaving apply Ust Face Powder de Luxe.

A clergyman writes: "For years I tried in vain to get something to make shaving less painful to me. Accidentally I struck upon 'Ust,' and have used it ever since. It seems to possess the properties to soften the beard, to make the skin firm, smooth, less sensitive, and thus the work is made easy." For further distribution a bargain. Once only. One 50c bottle Ust and one 50c box Ust Face Powder de Luxe for 75c. Address Ust Mfg Co., 385 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Liberal Colonial Dames. One member of the New York Society of Colonial Dames has subscribed for \$5,000,000 of Liberty bonds.

Change of Heart. "Tom is so good hearted." "Really? I thought he was troubled with palpitation."

You can't think clearly when your head is "clogged up" from cold in the head, or nasal catarrh.

Try Kondon's to clear your head
(at no cost to you)

50,000,000 have used this 25 year old remedy. For chronic catarrh, sore nose, coughs, colds, sneezing, nose-bleeds, etc. Write for complimentary card, or buy tube at drug store. It will benefit you four times more than it costs, or we pay money back. For trial can free write to KONDON'S, INC., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

KONDON'S CATARRHAL JELLY

When your brain works like a dog with three legs walks—you need BEECHAM'S PILLS

An active brain must have pure blood, not poisoned with products of indigestion—or liver and kidney laziness.

Largest Sale of Any Medicine in the World. Sold everywhere. In boxes, 10c, 25c.

ABSORBINE
TRADE MARK REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

Will reduce Inflamed, Strained, Swollen, Tendons, Ligaments, or Muscles. Stop the lameness and pain from a Splint, Side Bone or Bone Spavin. No blister, no hair gone and horse can be used. \$2 a bottle at druggists or delivered. Describe your case for special instructions and interesting horse book 2M Free.

ABSORBINE, JR., the antiseptic liniment for man and beast, reduces Strained, Torn Ligaments, Swollen Glans, Venous Muscles, Heals Cuts, Sores, Ulcers, Allays Pain. Price \$1.00 a bottle at druggists or delivered. Book "Evidence" free.

W. F. YOUNG, P. O. 3, 310 Temple Street, Springfield, Mass.

Easily Explained.

He was one of those officious foremen, one who tried to make those under his charge realize that he was somebody of importance. But one day he met his match.

Stepping up to the shop humorist, he said:

"You're a minute late this morning."

"I know, but there's a reason for it."

"Explain."

"When I was comin' along to work I heard a man in the river yellin' for help. I ran to him, was pullin' him out, but let him drop again."

"But why didn't you save him?"

"Not likely," was the dry answer.

"Why?"

"Cos he was a foreman!"—Tit-Bits.

GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER

Has been used for all ailments that are caused by a disordered stomach and inactive liver, such as sick headache, constipation, sour stomach, nervous indigestion, fermentation of food, palpitation of the heart caused by gases in the stomach. August Flower is a gentle laxative, regularizes digestion both in stomach and intestines, cleanses and sweetens the stomach and alimentary canal, stimulates the liver to secrete the bile and impurities from the blood. Sold in all civilized countries, 50 and 80 cent bottles.—Adv.

Overdone.

On the car recently, says an exchange, two young ladies carried on this conversation:

"Well, dearie, what are you doing in this part of town?"

"Oh, I've been to choir practice. You know we have moved into the new church now."

"Is that so? It's lovely outside, but I haven't been in it yet. Is it nice?"

"Oh, it's wonderful—and so easy to sing in."

"Are the acoustics so good?"

"Too good. The choir can hear every word of the sermon."

Pieric Acid.

Pieric acid is a high explosive was first heard of in a general way during the Boer war and in connection with the lyddite shells used by the British.

Keeping the Quality Up.

SARATOGA BROMO QUININE, the World-Famous Tonic for Quinine, is now the only tonic of its kind. It is the only tonic that is not only pure, but also contains the most potent of all tonics, SARATOGA BROMO QUININE, which is necessary to increase the power of the tonic. It is the tonic that is the best of all tonics. It is sold by every Druggist and Chemist.

The Lonesome Home.

Children should be seen and not heard, but it's a dull house where they are neither seen nor heard.

If you can't do the right thing it is better to remain idle.

MURINE Granulated Eyelids.

It is the only eye medicine that is not only pure, but also contains the most potent of all tonics, SARATOGA BROMO QUININE, which is necessary to increase the power of the tonic. It is the tonic that is the best of all tonics. It is sold by every Druggist and Chemist.

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TO EVERY ONE:
A Right MERRY CHRISTMAS and A Most HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Dufresnay's Christmas Awakening

ON Christmas morning of the year 1881 M. Dufresnay's apartments were in some confusion. Monsieur himself as he slept on a spindle-legged sofa was not the very image of order. His rose-colored satin coat was under his head, and his silk stockings clung dangled over the end of his all too brief bed. The cards of yesterday and yesterday's hasty breakfast were scattered about the floor.

He was disturbed by the insistent tinkling of a bell. Dufresnay groaned and struggled to his feet.

On opening the door he beheld a very beautiful young lady quietly dressed as a working woman and carrying a large basket such as laundresses use. Dufresnay retreated in confusion, having profoundly and wrestling with his coat.

"I pray you pardon me, mademoiselle. I did not expect a—vision!"

"And I pray you, monsieur, not to mock me," she replied, with a wry little smile. "The last time I came your servant said you had no money. You owe me 47 livres."

Dufresnay gazed in speechless incredulity for a moment and then burst out laughing.

"A merry Christmas to you, mademoiselle," he cried. "Is the basket for me?"

"I wish you also a merry Christmas. But please, please listen to me. Perhaps the wine is not yet out of your head. But I must have money today. Surely you can understand?"

Dufresnay partially mustered his wits and attempted an elaborate compliment.

"I have seen all the shepherdesses of our Arcadian Versailles and—By the goddess of the laundry, you are not crying! The basket is very heavy. Are there any actual shirts?"

He looked in comic perplexity from the basket to the girl. Then he said gently, "Has no one ever told you how beautiful you are?"

"Certainly you are not the first to flatter me nor the first that failed to pay me, but," she added, and her eyes filled with tears, "I had better hopes of you. Fine words will not help me."

"I know they will not. What have I that will bring 17 livres? This ring?"

"But that is a wedding ring."

"My mother's. And it is for my wife. It is for you."

"That is a cruel jest. And I thought you were so different. You have never seen me before, but I live not far away, and I have often seen you. You are not yourself now or you would not mock me so."

"I was never myself before," insisted Dufresnay.

At this moment a stately personage appeared in the doorway and rang the bell with great vigor.

A Christmas Prayer.

God grant no little child may go With hungry heart or empty hand— Give this thy world one radiant day To understand, to understand.

Give us the fitting word to say, The spendthrift smile, the brave career:

Disclose our hearts and give us now The courage of our tenderness!

Lord, we are old with toil and tears, Our souls are veiled with various art, Yet still the little children keep Thine ancient simplicity of heart— And they alone of all thy breath May bind the burning angels' eyes And, striking laughter from the sword, Retrace the years to paradise.

They are so brave with love and dreams, So eager eyed and, oh, so dear! I think we must return them now The faith they bore across the year.

I think that we must give them now The spendthrift smile, the kindly word— That earth may keep its ancient hope And we thy full commandments, Lord.

—Dana Burnet.

Christmas.

During the reformation the custom of observing Christmas was looked upon in England as sacrilegious. Puritans were working toward its abolishment; and finally in December 24, 1652, parliament ordered "That no observance shall be had of the five and twentieth day of December, commonly called Christmas day; nor any solemnity used or exercised in the churches upon that day in respect thereof."

Then Christmas became a day of work and no cheer. The love of fun which must find vent was expended at New Year, when the celebration was similar to that formerly observed at Christmas. Christmas has never regained its former prestige in England. Year after year it has been more observed in churches and families, but not in the wild boisterous hearty style of olden times.

When the merrymen of yore bade to each and all: "A merry Christmas and a happy New Year."

Your pockets full of money and your cellar full of beer."

—Yuletide in Many Land.

What the Christmas "Waits" Sing

Singing at the Doors.



SANTA CLAUS being about to desert the city streets for his annual reindeer ride over the roofs, the "waits" prepare to sing their centuries old carols.

In several American cities has been revived the beautiful old custom of the "waits" going about from house to house singing the familiar old songs. Light the Christmas candles in your window if you want them to stop before your home!

God rest you merry, gentlemen; let nothing you dismay— they will surely sing that, perhaps the best known of all old English carols. And this too:

Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.

And, of course, "O Little Town of Bethlehem."

A Lesson In Christmas Spirit

It was the day before Christmas last year. All my shopping had been done (or so I thought) when I suddenly remembered hearing my eldest son, a lad of eight years, say, "Oh, I hope Santa will bring me a harmonicon this Christmas," says a writer in the New York Evening Sun.

Of course I could not disregard such a wish, and although it was raining, I put on my storm coat and rubbers and with umbrella in hand started out for one of our large department stores.

On arriving at the counter where this particular article was displayed I found every one so busy I could not get attention for some time, and while waiting my turn I noticed two sadly neglected looking little boys of about six and eight years respectively standing very close to the counter and looking, oh, so longingly at these same harmonicons, when suddenly one of the young saleswomen turned sharply around and in a loud voice said, "Now, then, if you two boys don't get away from here at once I'll call the floor-walker and have you arrested." At the time this sudden attack was made upon these poor little waifs I was holding in my hands two of these same musical instruments, trying to decide which of the two kinds I would take.

The larger one of the boys looked up at me with a frightened look, as if to say, "Oh, we didn't mean to steal anything," when I said, "Boys, would you each like one of these harmonicons?" They said nothing, but the look of surprise (gratitude they knew nothing of) when I put one in each boy's tiny little hands I shall not forget to my dying day, and before you could say "Jack Robinson" they were out of the store and out of sight. I turned to the young woman, saying, "I will pay for them," when I noticed the tears in her eyes.

When she finally found her voice she said, "Oh, madam, I am so sorry I spoke as I did." "Well, never mind," I said; "you didn't understand. I am the mother of two boys and know what a boy craves." When she handed me

my change and package she said, "I shall never forget this day; it has taught me a lesson."

Both Exhibited.

"When a girl gets a set of furs for a Christmas present she loses no time in putting them on and going out to let people see how they look."

"In the case of silk stockings?"

"Um—well, judging from what I have observed on the streets, the same remark applies to silk stockings."

Exchange.

Plants as Presents.

Potted plants, such as cyclamen, ferns, primulas, double or single petunias, palms, or rubber plants, make excellent Christmas gifts. Pots of bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths, are also often used.

Tuning Up For Christmas

With a whirr and a swirl and a terrible roar

It blew in at evening from an arctic shore;

Traffic it blocked and the treacherous street

Glisters and twinkles with silvery sleet.

Dolls in armies and soldiers a-plenty

Gifts for kiddies and sweet and twenty,

Gifts for grannies and aunts and dads,

Gifts for using and losing and fads!

Gifts for nannies and chauffeurs and cooks,

Gifts for bookworms, who read all their books!

Gifts for sinners and sinners and saints,

Tops for spinners and pasteles and paints,

Music, mechanical, mirrors or lamps,

Turkeys for orphans and newboys and tramps

The Christmas Day.

This day shall change all griefs and quarrels into love.—Shakespeare.

Perhaps, too, they will sing what is said to be the earliest known Christmas carol, dating from the Anglo-Norman days of the thirteenth century, which begins:

Lordings, harken to our lay— We have come from far away

To seek Christmas.

In this mansion we are told He his yearly feasts doth hold;

"Tis today!

May joy come from God above To all those who Christmas love.

This carol ends with the toast of those days:

"Here, then, I bid you all wassail, cursed be he who will not any drink!"

"Wassail" meaning your health and "drinking" being the usual and courteous acknowledgment.

One of the best known of all the old carols, although not one of the oldest, was written by Nahum Tate in 1703 and is called the "Song of the Angels." It begins:

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,

All seated on the ground, The angel of the Lord came down

And glory shone around.

Many are the carols in which British and holly figures. "Then drink to the holly berry," pledges one writer of songs, while another in "Under the Holly Bough" summons "All ye who have scorned each other or injured friend or brother, come gather here."

And then there's that grand old hymn "Adeste Fideles," sung in every church in this land and in others, at this Christmas season:

Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, Come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem!

Christmas would not be Christmas, of course, if the "waits" were to neglect one other of the most beautiful of old carols:

Holy night, peaceful night! Through the darkness beams a light.

Holy night, peaceful night! Through the darkness beams a light!

Yonder, where they sweet vigils keep O'er the babe who, in silent sleep, Rests in heavenly peace.

If there are any of you who have in mind an after-Christmas dinner evening of song to the accompaniment of a harpsichord, a spinet, a lute or a piano or even the modern and much advertised disk machine, it might be well to try this on the company:

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing." Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King;

Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies,

With the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King!

Free sample each by mail with Book, Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. L, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

The race is not always to the swift, but don't be a slow poke on that account.

Philadelphians get coal on physicians' prescriptions.

When a girl gets a set of furs for a Christmas present she loses no time in putting them on and going out to let people see how they look.

In the case of silk stockings?

Um—well, judging from what I have observed on the streets, the same remark applies to silk stockings.

Exchange.

Plants as Presents.

Potted plants, such as cyclamen, ferns, primulas, double or single petunias, palms, or rubber plants, make excellent Christmas gifts. Pots of bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths, are also often used.

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Potted plants, such as cyclamen, ferns, primulas, double or single petunias, palms, or rubber plants, make excellent Christmas gifts. Pots of bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths, are also often used.

When a girl gets a set of furs for a Christmas present she loses no time in putting them on and going out to let people see how they look.

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Um—well, judging from what I have observed on the streets, the same remark applies to silk stockings.

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